

# INFORMATION REPORT    INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## BORDER GUARD HEADQUARTERS AND GENERAL BORDER GUARD INFORMATION

UGV (Upravlenie Granichin Voyski; Border Guard Headquarters)

1. The UGV occupies an old, five story building, located about 50 meters from the southwest side of the "Lion's Bridge" in Sofia. The UGV is subordinate to the Ministry of Interior. [redacted] the UGV is composed of the following nine sections which are similar to those in each Otryad Headquarters and described in para 35 below:

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- a. First Section - Operations Section (Operativno Otdelenie);
- b. Second Section - Plans or War Section (Boino Otdelenie);
- c. Third Section - Security Section (Otdel Kadri);
- d. Fourth Section - Training Section (Stroevo Otdelenie);
- e. Fifth Section - Reconnaissance Section (Razusnavatelna Sluzhba);
- f. Sixth Section - Communications Section (Sv'yznochno Otdelenie);
- g. Seventh Section - Secret Files Section (Sekretno Otdelenie);
- h. Eighth Section - Political Section (Polit-Otdel); and
- i. Ninth Section - V.S. Section (meaning unknown).

2. [redacted] officers of UGV:

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- a. CHAKUROV (fnu), Major General; UGV Commander since April or May 1953; promoted to Major General on 9 September 1953; UGV Chief of Staff until April or May 1953;

- b. Tonko PANOV, Lt. General; UGV Commander until the fall of 1952; [redacted]

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- c. VANKOV (fnu), Colonel; UGV Political Commander; formerly assistant UGV Commander and temporary UGV Commander between PANOV and CHAKUROV from the fall of 1952 to April or May 1953;

- d. KONDOV (fnu), Colonel; Chief of UGV Staff since April or May 1953;

- e. TRITCHKOV (fnu), Colonel; Commander of Border Guard Rear Troops; [redacted]

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- f. DAVIDOV (fnu), Colonel; [redacted]

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- g. GERGOV (fnu), Colonel; duty not known;

- h. DIMITROV (fnu), Colonel; duty not known;

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3. The following Border Guard units were directly subordinate to UGV:

- a. School for Border Guard Officers;
- b. School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants; and
- c. Sapper Unit at Dürvenitsa.

School for Border Guard Officers

4. The School for Border Guard Officers was called "Vasil Levski", School for Reserve Officers of UGV at Dürvenitsa, Sofia Okoliya. This school was not permanent but newly formed each year. In 1950-1951 and again in 1953 the school was located in barracks near Bankya.

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5. Applicants for the school were chosen for their political orientation and personal ability. Every applicant had to submit complete biographic data and a signed declaration that he would serve in the Border Guards for a certain length of time after graduation. The length of the training course was about eight or nine months. In 1953 the school started in February and finished on 10 October. The students in the school represented every recruit class serving in the Border Guards at that time. About 30 Border Guards from 3 Border Guard Otryad in Petrich entered the school in February 1953.

6. After graduation from the school the officers became Junior Lieutenants and other grades of Lieutenant. graduates of the school who were assigned to 3 Border Guard Otryad on 10 October 1953:

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- a. KOLKHOZOV (fnu), Jr. Lt.
- b. TENEV (fnu), Jr. Lt.; and
- c. DIMITROV (fnu), Lt.

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School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants (Mladshi Serzhanti) in 1951

7. The School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants [redacted] and code name "KhadshiDimitir," was located in a summer camp on the slope of Lyulin Mountain, between "Sveta Troyitsa" monastery (N 4240 E 2306) and the village of Mikhalovo (N 4241 E 2307) and about three kilometers south of Bankya (N 4243 E 2308). The camp area was 1-2 kilometers wide, including 220 tents and five buildings which were the officers' building, canteen, bakery, ammunitions depot and guard house. The camp was lighted by gas lamps and there was one lamp in each tent.
8. The guard force of the camp consisted of 23 soldiers who maintained seven permanent posts throughout the area.
9. The school strength was about 1,600 men, divided as follows:
  - a. 80 officers;
  - b. 40-50 Master Sergeants (Starshini) and Sergeants;
  - c. 150 Junior Sergeants; and
  - d. 1,300 soldiers.
10. The school was organized as follows:
  - a. Headquarters of the school;
  - b. One administration company;
  - c. One dispensary; and
  - d. Eight training companies organized into 3 battalions; two battalions had three commando (Udarna) companies in each; one special battalion had one special company and one communications (Svirsoshna) company.

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Weapons and Equipment of School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants in 1951

11. The soldiers of 6 commando company of the school were trained with all kinds of weapons, including light machine guns. They were armed with Vintovka carbines and each unit commander had a Shpagin sub-machine gun. Each unit was armed with one Degtyarov light machine gun and "Snayper" guns (guns with additional vision) were also used in the company.
12. The weapons of 7 special company, 3 special battalion of the school were:
  - a. 140 Vintovka carbines; one for every soldier;
  - b. 16 Shpagin sub-machine guns;
  - c. 4 Mortars; Russian make; 82 mm. M 1937 and 82 mm. M 1941;
  - d. 4 Mortars; German make; "Rheinmetal" 81 mm.; one for each unit;
  - e. 8 Russian "Maksim-Sokolov" heavy machine guns; and
  - f. TT revolvers; one for each officer.
13. There were two 76 mm. M 1902/30 guns in front of the guard house of the school which were not used for training.
14. The school ammunition depot was located in a small gorge about 100 meters north of the "Sveta Troyitsa" monastery. This depot was a building of 5 x 3 x 2 meters in size and surrounded by a barbed wire fence which was guarded by three soldiers. One man was in charge of the depot and issued ammunition to officers only after signing their names in a special book.
15. Part of the "Sveta Troyitsa" monastery was used to store weapons, military equipment and clothing for the school. [redacted] following items of military equipment stored here:
  - a. 140-150 knapsacks;
  - b. 140-150 helmets;
  - c. 60-70 German gas masks;
  - d. 50-60 shoes; and
  - e. Indeterminate number of clothing items, blankets, sheets, etc.

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16. The transportation facilities of the school consisted of three to four Molotov trucks, one ZIS truck and several horse carts.

#### Composition and Duration of School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants in 1951

17. All the students of the school were from Border Guard units and members of the 1930 recruit class which had been called on 2 December 1950. The students were sent to the school about one month after completing service in the Border Guard Otryad Training (Ucheben) Battalion.<sup>3</sup> (See para 63 below for information on these training battalions.)
18. About 70-80 soldiers from 3 Border Guard Otryad attended the school. They were picked by their officers without regard for their personal preference, and some were members of the DSHM (Dimitrovski Soyuz na Narodnata Mladost; Dimitrov Union of the People's Youth) and others were without political affiliations. About one-third of these students had the equivalent of a high school education but there were some with only four years of school.
19. The course lasted six months, from May to November 1951, and most of the students graduated and received promotions to the grade of Junior Sergeant. After completing the school the students were sent for 20 days practical training to Border Guard units where they served as ordinary soldiers. At the end of this 20 day period the graduates returned to the school to receive promotions to the grade of Junior Sergeant and thereafter they returned to their former Border Guard units.

#### Food, Hygiene and Leave

20. The food at the school was usually fair and sometimes bad. However, the food was adequate in quantity and each student received one kilo of bread per day. Breakfast consisted of tea and cheese or marmalade. However, the cheese and marmalade were often so bad that the doctor's examination was required before consumption by the students. Luncheon consisted of three dishes, including soup as the first dish, potatoes, beans or other vegetables as the second, and fruit, salad, milk with rice or a desert as the third. Supper also consisted of three dishes but always different from the lunch dishes.
21. Bathing and laundry facilities were in Bankya. The school paid for the personal laundry but each soldier paid for his own bath which he was required to take every ten days.
22. The students were not authorized any home leave. However, every Sunday the students could visit Bankya or Sofia from 1400 to 2100 hours.

#### Training Course in the School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants in 1951

23. The students of the school received training in the following subjects:
- Drill (Stroeva Podgotovka; training in ranks). The students were trained individually, by squad, platoon and company. They learned to drill with and without weapons, how to salute and how to report to their superiors. Drilling in units up to platoons was commanded by soldiers and the instructors were the platoon commanders. During the first month of the school there were as many as three hours of drill per day. Toward the end of the training there was only one hour of daily drill.
  - Political Indoctrination (Politicheska Podgotovka; political training). During the entire training period almost 300 hours were devoted to political indoctrination and the instructors were the political officers of the training companies. Almost every day two hours were devoted to political indoctrination and an additional 20 minutes were given to the reading of special newspaper articles. Material covered the first day was repeated on the second day and an examination was given on it the third day. The subjects of the political lectures were Bulgarian history,

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Bulgarian wars and the Russian Revolution. The lectures particularly criticized the western powers and especially Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia, and at the same time lauded the USSR and the satellite countries.

- c. Border Patrol Duty (Granichna Sluzhba; border service). The platoon commanders were the instructors. The students received two hours of theoretical training twice a week and four to five hours of practical training twice a week which amounted to about 14 hours of training per week or over 300 hours during the entire training period. The students were taught the various kinds of border guard duties, such as:
- (1) Border details (Granichni Naryadi);
  - (2) Movement and concealment (Maskiraniye) of Border Guard posts;
  - (3) Location of Ambushes (Zasada);
  - (4) Construction of a fixed line of patrols (Zaslony) around a place where an illegal (Narushitel; law breaker) has been seen;
  - (5) Authority and responsibility of Border Guard posts and patrols;
  - (6) Escort of arrested persons;
  - (7) Checking documents;
  - (8) Searches and formation of search groups (Poyuskova Grupa) to search the area surrounded by a Zaslony; and
  - (9) Details of the border area.

Practical training was conducted on a model Zastava building and area on Lyulin mountain.

- d. Physical Training (Fizicheska Podgotovka). About 90 hours were devoted to physical training during the entire school period. For 20 minutes each day the students did setting-up exercises and ran 500 to 1,000 meters. For one hour twice a week the students were engaged in gymnastics or athletic games.
- e. Rifle Training (Strelkova Podgotovka). The platoon commanders and their assistants supervised this training which consisted of about 20 minutes of daily exercise in the loading, unloading and aiming of every available rifle. About 50 hours were devoted to this during the entire training period.
- f. Weapons Training (Oruzhestanie; weapons familiarisation). The platoon commanders were the instructors and the training consisted of one to two hours for two to three days per week, or about 30 hours during the entire training period. The students were trained in the use of the following:
- (1) Vintovka carbine;
  - (2) Shpagin sub-machine gun;
  - (3) Mortar; German make "Mginnmetal" 81 mm;
  - (4) Mortar; Russian make 82 mm; and
  - (5) Hand grenades; offensive and defensive.

Theoretical training was also given on the use of the "Dusulya" artillery observation device (type not known) and the "dalekomer" telemeter with the one meter base.

- g. Rules and Regulations (Disziplinaren Ustav; disciplinary regulations). The platoon commanders devoted about 20-25 hours during the entire training period to teaching the rights, duties, rewards and punishments of the Border Guards.
- h. Guard Rules (Ustav Garnisona Sluzhba; rules for garrison duty). The platoon commanders were the instructors and devoted about 20 hours during the entire training period to the instruction of guard rules which included:
- (1) Kinds of guard duty (Karsul) in town and in the barracks;
  - (2) Duties of the sentries and persons on alert in the guard house (Fedchasirya);

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- (3) Duties of the chief of the sentries (Karaulen Nachalnik);
  - (4) Persons from whom the sentries can take orders;
  - (5) Persons responsible for food, light and hygiene in the guard house (Karaulno Pomeshtenie); and
  - (6) Various reports required during the changing of the guards, etc.
- i. Barracks Rules (Ustav Vytreshnya Sluzhba; rules for internal service). The platoon commanders devoted about 20 hours during the entire training period to instruction in barracks guard duty (Dnevalen) which included the execution of reports, maintenance of hygiene, etc.
  - j. Mortar Familiarisation (Tekhnicheskoe Obuchenie s Minokhvurgachki; technical mortar instruction). The platoon commanders were the instructors and devoted two to three hours daily, once or twice a week, to this subject which amounted to about 100 hours during the entire training period. The training included the maintenance of all available mortars as well as the use of the commander's case containing maps, charts, etc. (Komandirskoto Sanducho).
  - k. Tactical Training (Takticheskaya Podgotovka; tactics training). The platoon commanders instructed the students for five hours daily and two to three times per week which amounted to 300 hours during the entire training period. The students were taught the tactical use of a squad, platoon and company in depth, on the offense and on the defense, including the capture and search of enemy trenches, gathering information on enemy units, crossing barbed wire fences, etc.
  - l. Military Topography (Voenna Topografiya). During the entire training period about eight hours were spent in learning topographical signs, orientation by map and according to the stars.
  - m. Chemical Warfare Defense (Protivokhimicheskaya Zashchita; anti-chemical defense). About four to five hours during the entire training period were devoted to instruction in the use of the gas mask and all practical exercises were held with old German-made gas masks.
  - n. Compass Reading (Dvishenie po Azimut - Ruchen Kompas; movement by azimuth - hand compass). About three to four hours during the entire training period were given to instruction in the use of the watch or compass for maintaining correct direction and finding hidden objects.
  - o. Recognition of Foreign Planes (Raspoznavanie na Gushdi Samoleti). Students were given instruction in the distinctive signs and characteristics of various foreign planes during one day of the entire training period.
  - p. Marksmanship (Strelbi). The platoon commanders were the instructors. The training started during the second month of the school period and consisted of the following:
    - (1) Vintovka carbine; two cartridges at 100 meter: distance aimed from the head; four cartridges at 200 meters from the chest; four cartridges at 400 meters from the body; four cartridges at 50 meters from the body at night;
    - (2) Shpagin sub-machine gun; one cartridge at 100 meter: distance aimed from the chest; ten cartridges at 75 meters from the chest; ten cartridges at 20 meters from the body at night; ten cartridges at 50 to 100 meters from the chest while walking;
    - (3) Offensive hand grenade; only once during the entire training period at 50 meter distance; and
    - (4) Mortar - German "Rheinmetall" and Russian type - four times during entire training period; four rounds at 1,000-1,200 meter: distance; 100 meter

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approach with ten rounds at 1,000 meter distance; five to six rounds on open target at 500-600 meter distance; 800 rounds at 1,200 meter distance during entire school demonstration shooting.

The 5-point evaluation system was used and the best marksman from each training company in the school was promoted to Sergeant and given 5,000 Leva (old type) or one watch.

Schedule of Work at the School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants in 1951

24. The daily schedule of work from Monday through Friday was the following:

0605	hours	Reveille
0605-0620	"	Gymnastic exercises
0620-0700	"	Personal and barracks cleaning
0700-0730	"	Breakfast
0730-0740	"	Cleaning camp area
0740-0800	"	Political indoctrination
0800-0810	"	Rest
0810-0900	"	First class period
0900-0910	"	Rest
0910-1000	"	Second class period
1000-1010	"	Rest
1010-1100	"	Third class period
1100-1110	"	Rest
1110-1200	"	Fourth class period
1200-1215	"	Rest
1215-1300	"	Luncheon
1300-1350	"	Rest
1350-1410	"	Shooting with personal weapons
1410-1500	"	Fifth class period
1500-1510	"	Rest
1510-1600	"	Sixth class period
1600-1610	"	Rest
1610-1700	"	Seventh class period
1700-1710	"	Rest
1710-1800	"	Eighth class period
1800-1820	"	Rest
1820-1900	"	Supper
1900-2000	"	Free time
2000-2050	"	First group culture hour
2050-2100	"	Rest
2100-2150	"	Second group culture hour
2150-2240	"	Free time
2240-2255	"	Call to barracks
2300	"	Bed

25. There were only five class periods lasting until 1300 hours on Saturdays and there were no classes on Sundays.

Command Personnel of the School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants in 1951

26. [ ] officers of the school;

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a. DAVIDOV (fnu), Colonel, school commander until August 1951, later transferred as commander of the training battalion for Junior Sergeants in Ardino and subsequently to UGV;

b. PAPALEZOV (fnu), Major, school commander from August to October 1951 [ ]

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p. YANKOV (fnu), Lt., platoon commander; [REDACTED]

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1. IVANOV (fnu), Lt., platoon commander; [REDACTED]

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r. TODOROV (fnu), Captain; [REDACTED]

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School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants in 1952

27. During 1952 six companies of the school, [REDACTED] were located in Petrich. [REDACTED] the remainder of the school was located at Kyustendil. In Petrich the students of the school occupied the first two floors of the headquarters building of 3 Border Guard Otryad. In May 1952 the units of the school from Petrich and Kyustendil were sent to barracks at Dürvenitsa near Sofia.

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28. The length of training during 1952 was nine months, from March to November, and the weapons and training were similar to what they were in 1951.

29. The school commander was Captain KMETOV (see para 26 d above) and he was assisted by the following officers [REDACTED]

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- a. Khristo MARKOV, Sr. Lt.;
- b. Bogdan Atanasov KHRISTOV, Lt.;
- c. NIKOLOV (fnu), Lt.;
- d. IVANOV (fnu), Lt.;
- e. Ivan STOYANOV, Sr. Lt.; and
- f. BOYICHEV (fnu), Lt.

School for Border Guard Junior Sergeants in 1953

30. The school was located at Ardino during 1953 and the course lasted from the beginning of April to 10 October.

31. Lt. Col. VÜLEV (fnu) was commander of the school and he was assisted by the following officers: (all described in para 26 above)

- a. Ivan STOYANOV, Sr. Lt., Bn. Comdr.;
- b. Khristo MARKOV, Sr. Lt., Co. Comdr.;
- c. Bogdan Atanasov KHRISTOV, Lt., Co. Comdr.;
- d. NIKOLOV (fnu), Lt., position unknown;
- e. IVANOV (fnu), Lt., " "
- f. BOYICHEV (fnu), Lt., " "

Sapper Unit Attached to UGV

32. From March to October 1953 a sapper unit attached to UGV occupied part of the barracks of the Border Guard unit [REDACTED] at Dürvenitsa. [REDACTED]

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33. [REDACTED] members of this sapper unit;

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- a. Todor ALEKSANDROV, [REDACTED] member of the sapper unit until 10 October 1953 when he returned to 3 Border Guard Otryad at Petrich and was promoted to Jr. Sgt.

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b. NAGLEV (fnu), Lt., chief of staff; [REDACTED]

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Structure and Organization of a Border Guard Otryad

34. The principal command personnel of a Border Guard Otryad are the Otryad Commander, Deputy Commander for political affairs or Political Commander, and Chief of Staff.
35. Otryad Headquarters is divided into the following nine operational sections:
- a. First Section - Operations Section. The chief of this section is similar to an army battalion commander. The command staff (Komanden Sustav) consists of four officers and one soldier who is a draftsman. This section is concerned with the preparation of relief maps (Maketi), plans and sketches of the border areas and the distribution of these to the Otryad and Zastavas.
  - b. Second Section - Plans or War Section. The chief of this section is similar to an army battalion commander and he is assisted by three other officers. This section is concerned with the preparation of training schedules and courses for the Border Guards, including training on the firing range.
  - c. Third Section - Security Section. The T/O of this section calls for three officers and one sergeant. The duties of the section are to maintain the personnel files and records of the officers, soldiers and civilian personnel in the Otryad and check biographic data of Otryad personnel. All promotions, discharges and transfers of Otryad personnel go through this section.
  - d. Fourth Section - Training Section. The T/O of this section calls for one officer as chief of the section. [redacted]
  - e. Fifth Section - Reconnaissance Section. The T/O of this section calls for six officers, one of whom is the section chief, and a sergeant. The section is concerned with internal and external intelligence, including the dispatch and control of agents, the interrogation of suspects, illegal persons and refugees, and the investigation of all kinds of border incidents. In addition, this section is responsible for the organization and direction of Assistance Groups (Grupi za Sudeystvie) in the surrounding villages (see para 116 below for a description of these groups).
  - f. Sixth Section - Communications Section. The T/O of this section calls for two officers and seven to eight soldiers who are telephone and radio operators. This section is responsible for the construction and maintenance of telephone and radio communications between the Otryad and its sub-units.
  - g. Seventh Section - Secret Files Section. The T/O of this section calls for one officer and seven female clerks, the majority of whom are typists. This section maintains the Otryad files, including classified material, and handles the classified typing for the Otryad.
  - h. Eighth Section - Political Section. The T/O of this section calls for four officers, one of whom is chief of the section and at the same time Otryad Deputy Commander for political affairs. This section directs the political education and indoctrination of the soldiers of the Otryad by preparing the appropriate lectures and reading material. All political commanders in the Komandaturas and Zastavas are attached to this section from which they receive their orders for the political education of the soldiers.
  - i. Ninth Section - V.S. Section.<sup>4</sup> The T/O of this section calls for three officers. [redacted] the meaning of V.S. This section is concerned with the surveillance of the Otryad personnel to catch any indication of dissatisfaction, anti-Communist activity, attempts of

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sabotage, violations of security, association with prostitutes, bad treatment of soldiers by officers, and any irregularities in the Otryad units.

36. Otryad Headquarters also has the following administrative sections:
- Supply (Domakinstvo) Section. The T/O of this section calls for three officers, one of whom is chief (Nachalnik Tila), the second is deputy chief (Zamestnik Nachalnik Tila) and the third is food supply supervisor. This section, which is also called "Til na Otriada" is concerned with the supply of food and clothing to all units of the Otryad.
  - Chief of the weapons and ammunition dumps.
  - Motor vehicle service. All motor vehicles, repair shops and storehouses for small parts are maintained by this service.
  - K.E.OH. Informant does not know the meaning of this title. The chief of this section is a Master Sergeant (Starshina) and the section is responsible for the construction and maintenance of buildings in the Otryad area, including the procurement of materials and the hiring of labor.
  - Finance (Kovcheshnitsi) Section. This section is usually run by three civilians, one of whom is controller, another treasurer and the third administrator.
37. There are two daily duty officers at Otryad Headquarters who are the Headquarters duty officer and the operational duty officer (Operativn Deshuren).

#### Discipline and Types of Punishment

38. During 1950-51 the discipline in the Border Guards was better than it was during 1953. The indications of poor discipline in 1953 were lack of respect for officers, disobedience of orders and lack of attention to training by both officers and soldiers.
39. Border Guard soldiers received the following punishment for minor offenses such as failure to complete an assignment, returning late from leave, etc.:
- Reprimand, privately or before the entire unit;
  - Assignment to special patrol duty, barracks guard duty, cleaning details, etc.; and
  - Deprivation of leave.
40. For larger offenses, such as disobeying an order, failure to maintain weapons, fear while on duty, etc. the following punishments were used:
- Apprehension. During this period the soldier could eat and work. This punishment could be inflicted by platoon commanders for three days, by company commanders for seven to ten days and by higher commanders and political commanders for as many as 20 days.
  - Close confinement. During this period the soldier did not work and he was deprived of hot food. This punishment could be inflicted by company commanders for four days and by higher commanders and political commanders for as many as 15 days.
41. For the most severe offenses, such as falling asleep on duty, threatening a commander, attempting to escape, changing an order, aiding an escape, etc. the soldier received a military trial.

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Uniforms and Equipment

42. Each Border Guard soldier was issued one summer uniform, one regular winter uniform and a special winter uniform to be worn on patrols which consisted of cotton trousers and cotton jacket.
43. The winter uniform of the Border Guard Junior Lieutenant consisted of the following:
- Service cap; crown of green and mossy textured cloth; no braid connecting crown and brim; brim of blue and smooth textured cloth; shiny black thong above the visor; yellow cockade with five-pointed, red star in the middle;
  - Overcoat; dull blue, mossy textured cloth; buttons to the neck and shoulders; outside pockets with flaps at the hip on each side; outside buttons are of yellow metal with a yellow five-pointed star in the middle; cuffs on the sleeves are broad and about .12 meters wide;
  - Epaulettes; large epaulettes of yellow cloth with green braid; green line down the middle of each; small button of yellow metal with yellow five-pointed star at the inside or neck end of the epaulette; flat, five-pointed star about 1 centimeter in diameter designating rank on epaulette;
  - Coat collar insignia; about 7-8 centimeters long, 2-3 centimeters wide; green cloth with blue braid; one identical button on each collar;
  - Jacket; dark green cloth; high, stiff collar closed by two buttons on each side; small white collar sewed on uniform collar; similar to Soviet army jacket; two external breast pockets fastened with small yellow metal button with yellow five-pointed star in the middle; belt and suspenders worn with summer uniform only;
  - Jacket collar insignia; none since the spring of 1952;
  - Trousers; same cloth as the jacket; typical Soviet type with low, wide and slightly bulging near the knee; green braid; internal pockets placed perpendicular to the ground; and
  - Boots; shiny black leather with double soles.
44. The Border Guard soldier carried the following equipment while on duty:
- Personal bandage kit;
  - Shelter-half; green, about two meters long and two meters wide;
  - Several ropes; each one meter long, for binding captives;
  - Binoculars, for members of observation posts;
  - Telephone receiver, for members of patrols located near telephone contact points; and
  - Cartridge case, for protection and signals.

Entrance of Recruit into Border Guards in 1950

45. A member of the 1930 recruit class was called before a recruiting committee (Donaborna Komisija) in the village of Svoje, Sofia Okoliya in the spring of 1950. At that time persons considered reliable by the Government were recruited in the Border Guards. Each recruit had to present his birth certificate, identity card and DSNM membership card to the recruiting committee which was composed of ten persons. Each recruit received a medical examination and an officer executed a personal data questionnaire on each which included information on the recruit's political affiliations. Later the recruit received a

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document which showed whether or not he was fit for military service.

46. During the autumn of 1950 the same recruit was called, together with other members of the 1930 recruit class, before a second recruiting committee in the third military office in Sofia. The recruits carried the same documents as before plus the papers received from the first recruiting committee. The second recruiting committee was also composed of ten officers. This committee assigned the recruits to different military services, including the Border Guards, and each recruit was told to appear at the third military office in Sofia on 2 December 1950.

#### Leave

47. During the first two years in the Border Guards soldiers were not given home leave. After two years of service every soldier received 25 days home leave. Leave permits were written and signed by the chief of the Otryad Staff.
48. However, the following exceptions to the above rule existed and in these cases soldiers received home leave before the expiration of their two years of service:
- Exceptional service, such as catching an illegal person; the soldier could receive seven days of home leave;
  - Death of a close relative; a certified statement from the village council of the soldier's village was required; the soldier could receive seven days of home leave; and
  - Marriage of the soldier; a statement from the soldier's parents and a certified statement from the village council of the soldier's village was required; the soldier could receive seven days of home leave.
49. The soldiers could take city leave (Gradiska Otpuski). Soldiers in the Otryad staff could receive city leave almost every Sunday because of their shorter duty hours and proximity to the city. However, soldiers attached to Zastavas rarely got Sunday leave because of their many patrols and long hours of duty. City leave permits were hand-written and signed by company commanders.

#### Awards and Commendations

50. Border Guard soldiers received the following awards and commendations for good service:
- Written commendation;
  - Letter to the parents of the soldier;
  - Photograph of the soldier under the flag of the Border Otryad;
  - Promotion to higher grade;
  - Submission of photograph of the soldier or article about the soldier in the newspaper "Granichar";
  - Commendation before the other soldiers of the Otryad; and
  - Medal for good service.

#### 12 Border Guard Otryad Move in July and August 1953

51. During July and August 1953 12 Border Guard Otryad [redacted] was transferred to barracks located at Pirin Railway Station, Gorna Dzhumaya Okoliya. Until this move the Otryad had been located at barracks in Simitli, Gorna Dzhumaya Okoliya, which barracks were subsequently occupied by an unidentified infantry unit which had occupied the barracks at Pirin Railway Station. Informant believes that this change occurred in order to bring 12 Border Guard Otryad closer to the border.

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Changes Occurring in Otryad Komandaturas and Zastavas

52. Every Otryad received from UGV the code names of Zastavas attached to it and these names could only be changed by UGV and were inseparable from the line (lines) numbers of the Zastavas. For example, 3 Border Guard Otryad had the following Zastavas:

<u>Line Number</u>	<u>Zastava Code Name</u>
1	Klyuch
2	Kolarevo
3	Karamfil
4	Temenuga
5	Iyulyak
etc.	etc.

Whatever changes occurred in Otryad organization, these Zastava code names remained the same and were always inseparable from their line numbers. Changes could be the transfer of a Komandatura from one Otryad to another, creation of a new Komandatura, deactivation of a Komandatura, the transfer, creation or deactivation of a Zastava, etc. In all cases the Zastava code names and line numbers remained the same, although their locations could change. If after such changes there was an increase in the number of Zastavas attached to an Otryad, additional Zastava code names were assigned by UGV to the Otryad.

Until the summer of 1952, 3 Border Guard Otryad was composed of the following: 1 Komandatura in Petrich, 2 Komandatura in Petrovo (Sveti Vrach Okoliya) and 3 Komandatura in Nevrokop. During the summer of 1952 the following changes occurred in 3 Border Guard Otryad:

- a. Skakavets Komandatura [redacted] of 12 Otryad, was transferred from Simitli to Petrich where it became 1 Komandatura of 3 Otryad;
- b. 3 Komandatura of 3 Otryad in Nevrokop was transferred to 4 Otryad, in Devin; and
- c. As a result of these changes, former 1 and 2 Komandaturas of 3 Otryad became 2 and 3 Komandaturas of that Otryad respectively.

The changes which occurred in the Zastavas at the time of these Komandatura changes in 3 Otryad are best illustrated in the chart below:

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(To Summer 1952)			(After Change in Summer 1952)				
Koman- datura	Zastava Line No.	Code Name	Location	Koman- datura	Zastava Line No.	Code Name	Location
1 (3 Otryad)			Petrich	1 (former 4 of 12 Otryad)			Petrich
	1	Klyuch	Klyuch		1	Klyuch	Ograshden mountain
	2	Kolarevo	Kolarevo		2	Kolarevo	Gega
	3	Karamfil	Kongora hill		3	Karamfil	Zlatarevo
	4	Temenuga	Beliya Kamuk		4	Temenuga	Gabrene
	5	Lyulyak	Rushdak	2 (former 1 Kom.)	5	Lyulyak	Klyuch
	6	Struma	Topolnitsa		6	Struma	Kolarevo
2 (3 Otryad)	7	Rosa	Kulata		7	Rosa	Kongora hill
	8	Bresa	Novo Khodshovo		8	Bresa	Beliya Kamuk
	9	Minsukhar	-		9	Minsukhar	Rushdak
	10	Malina	-		10	Malina	Topolnitsa

As seen above the Zastava code names and line numbers remained the same and inseparable and only their locations changed. Since the new 1 Komandatura from 12 Otryad had only four Zastavas and it replaced the former 1 Komandatura of 3 Otryad which had six Zastavas, the two additional Zastavas (Lyulyak and Struma) remained attached to the new 2 Komandatura (former 1 Komandatura).

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## 3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD

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Reorganization of 3 Border Guard Otryad from April 1951 to summer of 1952

53. Until April 1951 3 Border Guard Otryad was located in the town of Sandanski (formerly Sveti Vraoh) [redacted] The three Komandaturas of this Otryad were:

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- a. 1 Komandatura; [redacted] code name unknown, in Petrich;
- b. 2 Komandatura, [redacted] code name unknown, in Petrovo, Sandanski Okoliya; and
- c. 3 Komandatura, [redacted] code name unknown, in Nevrokep (now Gotse Delchev).

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54. The 3 Border Guard Otryad command personnel [redacted] serving in the Otryad until April 1951 were:

- a. MITKOV (fnu), Lt. Col., Otryad Commander; [redacted]

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- b. DAVIDKOV (fnu), Capt., Political Commander; [redacted]

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- c. VELIKOV (fnu), Capt., Chief of Staff [redacted]

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55. During April 1951 an infantry battalion (Pekhotna Drushina) was moved from Petrich to Sandanski and the barracks vacated by this unit in Petrich were occupied by 3 Border Guard Otryad in order that the Otryad could be closer to its subordinate units.

56. During the summer of 1952 4 Komandatura [redacted] code name "SKAKAVETS", of 12 Border Guard Otryad was moved from Simitli, Blagoevgrad Okoliya (formerly Gorna Dzhumliya) to Petrich and became 1 Komandatura of 3 Border Guard Otryad. At the same time 3 Komandatura of 3 Border Guard Otryad was moved from Nevrokep to 4 Border Guard Otryad in Devin. After these changes there were three Komandaturas in 3 Border Guard Otryad (see chart on page 35 below) and the Otryad command personnel were:

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- a. DACHEV (fnu), Colonel, Otryad Commander [redacted]

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- b. DUPINOV (fnu), Captain, Political Commander [redacted]

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- c. Stefan TERZITRADEV, Captain, Chief of Staff [redacted]

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Location and Headquarters Personnel of 3 Border Guard Otryad in 1953

57. The code name of 3 Border Guard Otryad was DUB, formerly BUK. and the Otryad was located in Petrich in 1953. [redacted]

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[redacted] the Otryad, together with the units attached directly to its headquarters and the staffs of 1 and 2 Komandaturas, was located in the Petrich barracks which were situated in the western part of the city and constituted the last group of buildings in that part of town. The "Kazarmite" barracks quarter of Petrich takes its name from the barracks buildings located there and these were on the south side of the Petrich-Zlatarevo (N 4123 E 2259) road. The Petrich state hospital was also located in the barracks area.

58. The headquarters personnel of the Otryad consisted of about 36 officers, from two to five master sergeants (starshini) who were assisted by ten civilians, and ten soldiers. [redacted] approximate 60 men in the Otryad headquarters [redacted]

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## a. Command and Staff:

(1) Stoyan KRUSTEV, Lt. Col., Otryad Commander [redacted]

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(2) DUPINOV (fnu), described in para 56 b above; and

(3) Stefan TERZIRADEV, described in para 56 c above.

## b. First Section - Operations Section:

(1) KOSTADINOV (fnu), Captain, Section Commander [redacted]

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(2) KISYOV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Assistant Section Commander [redacted]

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(3) LAZAROV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Assistant Section Commander and also military commandant (Sushtevremenno Komendant) of Petrich [redacted]

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(4) ATANASOV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Assistant Section Commander and also commander of the sapper (Saporniya) platoon (see para 91 below) [redacted]

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## c. Second Section - Plans or Combat Section:

(1) ORMANOV (fnu), Captain, Section Commander [redacted]

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Strength of 3 Border Guard Otryad in 1953

59. The non-officer strength of 3 Border Guard Otryad was 1700-1800 and included men of the 1930, 31, 32 and 33 recruit classes. Those of the 1930 class were dismissed on 2 November 1953. About 600 men were recruits of the 1933 class, the first call-up of which occurred about 15 October 1953. 200 of the Otryad border guards had gone through the Otryad Training Battalion (see para 65 below) and were promoted to Junior Sergeant. This non-officer strength was distributed as follows:
- a. Training Battalion - about 600;
  - b. Maneuver Group or Reserve Company - about 140;
  - c. Supply Company - about 40;
  - d. ~~Communications~~ Platoon - about 20;
  - e. Sapper Platoon - about 30;
  - f. Commandant Section - about 10;
  - g. Hospital - about 3 to 4;
  - h. Training School for Border Dogs - about 20 to 30;
  - i. Veterinary - about 1 or 2;
  - j. Fuel Dump - about 1 or 2;
  - k. Maneuver Groups or Reserve Companies of the Komandaturas - about 150 (40-50 in each Komandatura);
  - l. Zastavas - about 750 (40-80 in each Zastava); and
  - m. Special Training Battalion for mine throwers and heavy machine gunners - about 400; trainees are from all Border Guard Otryads.
60. The officer strength of 3 Border Guard Otryad was about 170 and distributed in the following way:
- a. Otryad Staff - about 31;
  - b. Supply - about 5;
  - c. Maneuver Group or Reserve Company - about 4;
  - d. Sapper Platoon - about 2;
  - e. Training Battalion - about 26;
  - f. Doctors and Dentists - about 4;
  - g. Veterinary - 1;
  - h. Komandatura Staffs - about 42; and
  - i. Zastavas - about 50.

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61. In addition, there were at least 40 sergeants and master sergeants attached to the Otryad who served in the Otryad supply dumps and hospital. Some of these master sergeants served in the line companies of the Otryad.

#### Units Attached Directly to 3 Border Guard Otryad

62. The following units were attached directly to 3 Border Guard Otryad:

- a. Training Battalion;
- b. Maneuver Group or Reserve Company;
- c. Communications Platoon;
- d. Sapper Platoon;
- e. Training School for Dogs;
- f. Military Police or Commandant Section;
- g. Supply Company;
- h. Arsenal;
- i. Ammunition Dump;
- j. Fuel Dump;
- k. Hospital or Dispensary; and
- l. Observation Post (NP; Nablyudatelen Post) of VNOS (Vusduzhna Nablyudatelna Osvedomitelna Sluzhba; Aerial Observation, Information and Communications).

#### Training Battalions Formed by 3 Border Guard Otryad

63. The following training battalions (Ucheben Batalion) were formed by 3 Border Guard Otryad from May 1951 to October 1953:

- a. May to August 1951; battalion for training recruits from the 31 recruit class, first call-up;
- b. August to November 1951; battalion for training the 31 recruit class, second call-up;
- c. December 1951 to February 1952, special training battalion for training recruits from the 31 recruit class;
- d. June or July 1952 to October or November 1952; battalion for training the 32 recruit class, first call-up; formation of this battalion was delayed until the barracks were cleared of the border guards attending the School for Junior Sergeants (see para 27 above);
- e. Approximately November 1952 to approximately February 1953; battalion for training the 32 recruit class, second call-up; and
- f. 15 October 1953; battalion for training the 33 recruit class, first call-up; Informant left the country before the termination of this battalion.

#### Special Training Battalion

64. This Special Training Battalion was organized for the limited training of border guards in the use of heavy machine guns and mortars. The instruction began in December 1951 and ended in February 1952, and allegedly the battalion was dissolved soon after that time. The battalion was composed of 450 trainees, all from the 31 recruit class, and 38 instructors, including 22 officers, 4 sergeants and 12 junior sergeants, all borrowed from other Border Guard units. The commander was Major NIKOLOV (fnu) of para 26 c above. The organization, equipment and training of this battalion followed closely the regular course for training border guards in the use of heavy machine guns and mortars which was given in the School for Junior Sergeants (see para 23 above). This battalion was a training unit organized to meet a temporary shortcoming in the training of the Border Guards, and it was probably dissolved in early 1952.

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Training Battalion for the 33 Recruit Class

65. The Training Battalion for the first call-up of the 33 recruit class, [redacted] (Ucheben Batalion), which commenced training on 15 October 1953, was quartered on the first and second floors of 3 Border Guard Otryad Headquarters building in Petrich. The battalion was composed of about 500 trainees who were divided into four training companies (Ucheben Roti). Neither the battalion nor the companies had code names. [redacted]
66. Each training company had approximately 130-140 men and was divided into four training platoons (Uchebni Vavodi). The command personnel of each company was:
- Company commander, usually a senior lieutenant (Starshi Leytenant);
  - Deputy commander and political officer, usually a senior lieutenant;
  - Four platoon leaders, usually junior lieutenants (Mladshi Leytenti);
  - One master sergeant (Starshina);
  - Four assistant platoon leaders, usually sergeants (Serzhanti); and
  - Sixteen squad leaders, usually junior sergeants (Mladshi Serzhanti).
67. The battalion commander was usually a captain or major and the deputy and political commander was usually a senior lieutenant. A master sergeant was also assigned to the battalion. The command personnel strength of the battalion was 111, including 26 officers, 5 master sergeants, 16 sergeants and 64 junior sergeants. The training officers were drawn from 3 Border Guard Otryad and also from the Schohl for Border Guard Junior Sergeants which closed on 10 October 1953 (see para 30 above).
68. [redacted] officers in the battalion: 7
- CEMANOV (fnu), Captain; described in para 58 c (1) above;
  - Khristo Ghitov TAUSHANOV, Sr. Lt. [redacted]
  - Kamen DRAGOV, Sr. Lt.; described in para 58 c (3) above;
  - KYUSEPASHEV (fnu), Sr. Lt.; battalion deputy commander for political affairs; described in para 58 c (3) above;
  - DUNKOV (fnu), Lt.; company commander [redacted]
  - ILIEV (fnu), Sr. Lt.; company commander and also attached to 1 Komandatura: [redacted]
  - VINCHAROV (fnu), Sr. Lt.; deputy company commander in charge of political affairs and also deputy commander for political affairs of 1 Zastava, BALKANSKO, 2 Komandatura [redacted]

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- h. TOMOV (fmu), Sr. Lt.; deputy company commander in charge of political affairs and also political commander of 5 Zastava, MUR, 3 Komandatura

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- i. SPASOV (fmu), Sr. Lt.; deputy company commander for political affairs

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- j. SIMEONOV (fmu), Jr. Lt.; platoon commander

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- k. TODOROV (fmu), Jr. Lt.; platoon commander

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- l. IVANOV (fmu), Jr. Lt.; platoon commander and also attached to the Maneuver Group.

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- m. TSONEV (fmu), Jr. Lt.; described in para 58 c (5).

69. All officers of the battalion carried TT (Tulski Tukarov) pistols. Each squad was allowed one light machine gun, Degtyarov or Bren. All the soldiers were armed with long Vintovka rifles and each squad commander and deputy platoon commander was armed with one of the following Soviet automatic weapons:

- a. PP M 1941 Tommy gun;
- b. PP M 1943 Tommy gun; or
- c. German Schmeiser.

The personnel attached to the supply and service sections of the battalion were not issued weapons.

70. The members of the training battalion were given no external guard assignments, nor did they ever take part in any of the activities of the Otryad, such as searches. The battalion had a training zastava located in a small building in a ravine about 100 meters south of the road to Eleshnitsa (N 4121/22 E 2307/08), Petrich Okoliya and about 80 meters southwest of the Sveta Petka monastery (figure 3, sketch on page 66).

71. [redacted] the training course was scheduled to last four months. No papers showing completion of the course were to be issued to the soldiers.

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Maneuver Group<sup>8</sup>

72. As of March 1953 the Reserve Group (Reservna Grupa) or Special Company (Spetsialna Rota) of 3 Border Guard Otryad had its name changed to Maneuver Group (Manevrena Grupa). This group was a border guard unit with temporary personnel who were frequently assigned to strengthen the zastavas when needed, and to assist quickly with surveillance and searches. The group was quartered in the barracks occupied by 1 and 2 Komandatura personnel (see figures 5 and 6 of sketch on page 59) and in the absence of training battalion personnel the group occupied their quarters (see figure II, 12 of sketch on page 62). The commander told the group in March 1953 that the new name, Maneuver Group, was classified Secret.
73. The non-officer strength of the group was approximately 140, of which 125 were privates from the 1930, 31 and 32 recruit classes (two call-ups for each class) and approximately 15 were junior sergeants from the 1930 and 31 recruit classes. These men were divided into four platoons of four squads each. The first and second platoons were striking (Udaren) platoons, the third was a mortar platoon and the fourth was a heavy machine gun platoon.
74. The command personnel consisted of five officers who were a company commander, a deputy for political affairs and three platoon commanders. One of the platoons had no platoon commander because approximately 20 to 30 members of that platoon were always on loan to other zastavas and the rest of the platoon members were transferred for duty to the other platoons in the group. There were four assistant platoon commanders who were two sergeants and two junior sergeants [redacted] officers of the Maneuver Group [redacted]
- a. Khristo Gŭlŭboŭ TAUSHANOV, Commander of Maneuver Group; described in para 68 b;
- b. Atanas Ivanov GADALIEV, Jr. Lt.; First Platoon Commander [redacted]
- c. Todor Dimitrov TODOROV, Jr. Lt.; Mortar Platoon Commander [redacted]
- d. TODOROV (fnu), Jr. Lt.; Heavy Machine gun Platoon Commander; described in para 68 k; and
- e. IVANOV (fnu), Jr. Lt.; Deputy Commander; described in para 68 l.
75. The Maneuver Group used the following weapons:
- a. 2 Soviet 82 mm. mortars;
- b. 1 "Rheinmetal" 81 mm. mortar;
- c. 35 Schmeiser sub-machine guns;
- d. 4 Shpagin sub-machine guns;
- e. Approximately 100 Vintovka rifles and carbines;
- f. 2 Degtyarov light machine guns; and
- g. 2 Maksim Sokolov heavy machine guns.
76. The following weapons and ammunition were held in reserve in the weapons depot of the Maneuver Group (see figure I, 18 of sketch on page 62):
- a. About 20 Vintovka rifles;
- b. 1 "Rheinmetal" 81 mm. mortar;
- c. 1 Maksim Sokolov heavy machine gun;
- d. 5 to 6 boxes of hand grenades;
- e. 15 to 16 boxes of various caliber cartridges or belts;
- f. An unknown quantity of light machine gun clips;
- g. Approximately 20 old German gas masks; and
- h. 15 to 16 binoculars.

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Duties of Maneuver Group

77. In addition to providing barracks guards for the Otryad, the Maneuver Group could be called to duty outside the barracks on orders from the Otryad at any time. Usually the Maneuver Group was called to outside duty about two or three times per week, and almost every Saturday and/or Sunday. When reliable information concerning an illegal, especially an armed illegal, was received, the entire personnel of 3 Border Guard Otryad in Petrich, including telephone operators, assault engineers (sapeyor), supply (domankinstvo) personnel and officers, were called to action. Only about 30 soldiers and the officer on duty remained in the Otryad barracks.
78. When it was learned that an enemy agent was being dispatched from Greece or Yugoslavia, the Maneuver Group ordinarily sent one platoon as reinforcement to the appropriate zastava or zastavas. These platoons, together with the members of the zastava, covered the entire area with sekreti (special ambushes mounted at night) and patrols for about six or seven days prior to the date, and about 10 to 15 days after the date, the agent was expected. If the date was known exactly, Maneuver Group reinforcements were sent to certain zastavas approximately two or three days before the date and returned to Petrich immediately after the action took place. A second line of defense was established when a number of armed illegals were reported in the area. Second lines would normally be established on the Petrich-Zlatarevo or Petrich-Drangovo roads (see figure 10 of sketch on page 66).
79. In cases where agents were expected over a large area, such as that between the Struma Zastava (see para 146 below) near the village of Kolarovo (N 4123 E 2305) and Bresa Zastava (see figure 7 of sketch on page 66) at the place known as Beliya Kamik south of Petrich, the patrols and sekreti were distributed on a line further inland, i.e. the line Eleshnitsa-Petrich (see figures 1 and 2 of sketch on page 66) slightly south of it. For such a wide area of action 24-hour patrols were mounted which, during the day acted as observers and at night as sekreti. The soldiers carried their own food and were changed every 24 hours.
80. Whenever a resident from Petrich or vicinity was known to have escaped, the Maneuver Group placed a surveillance for one or two months on the escapee's home. Surveillance was conducted jointly with the DS (Durshevna Sigurnost; State Security) and Militia.
81. [redacted] sekreti and night patrols (Noshtni Patroli) provided by the Maneuver Group:
- a. [redacted] a sekret [redacted] was located 7 kilometers from Petrich on the Petrich-Zlatarevo (N 4124 E 2259) road, about 200 meters west of the bridge over the Strumeshnitsa River near the cottage of the road maintenance guard (Kanton). In the spring of 1952 this sekret was manned by members of the Militia as well as members of the Maneuver Group.
  - b. A sekret was located in a gully between the village of Eleshnitsa (N 4121/22 E 2307/08) and Petrich (see X of sketch on page 66).
  - c. Whenever information was received that an illegal person was in the vicinity, the Maneuver Group would provide 3 to 5 soldiers for a day and night surveillance of the railroad bridge across the Struma River at a location (N 4127 E 2316). See X near figure 8 of sketch on page 68.
  - d. Whenever information was received that an illegal was in the vicinity, the Maneuver Group would provide 5 soldiers for a sekret near the highway bridge over the Struma River on the Petrich-Sveti Vrach road (see X of sketch on page 68).
  - e. When an illegal was in the vicinity, the Maneuver Group provided soldiers for night patrols on the following roads: Petrich-Eleshnitsa, Petrich-Zlatarevo and Petrich-Drangovo.

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Maneuver Group Activity When Otryad Alerted to Presence of Suspect Person in the Area

When the Otryad received information from a resident that a suspect person was in the area, the entire Otryad Headquarters personnel, including the Maneuver Group, were alerted and a search party was organized from the Maneuver Group and dispatched by truck to the place where the suspect was last seen. The leader of the search group interrogated the witnesses to obtain a complete physical description of the suspect. If the spot where the suspect was last seen was near the border, part of the search group proceeded toward the border to block-off that area and the remainder of the group searched with dogs the spot where the suspect was last seen. Thus the first part of the search group was placed on the outer perimeter of the area as a stationary group (Zaslou) and the remainder of the group was assigned to the center as a mobile group (Poyskova Grupa). At the same time the neighboring zastavas were alerted. In certain cases the Otryad could call on the Assistance Groups (Grupa za Sudeystvie) from the near villages (see para 116 below).

If an illegal person was spotted and reported to be further from the border and toward the interior of the country, such as near the village of Vinogradi (N 4129 E 2323), Sandanski Okoliya, the Otryad search party was dispatched as poyskova groups to search the area where the suspect was last seen and no zaslon groups were sent to the border. At the same time the neighboring villages and zastavas were alerted.

After an unsuccessful search, the Otryad personnel, including those from the Maneuver Group, returned to Petrich and all sekreti were discontinued as were the special measures taken by the nearby zastavas. Only in rare cases where the information about the route of an illegal was known, such as toward a specific bridge or river, did the Otryad maintain a special guard night and day. [redacted] the Otryad was usually unsuccessful in its attempts to catch a reported illegal person in the area.

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Communications Platoon

[redacted] The platoon was quartered in the barracks of the Otryad in Petrich [redacted] it occupied one of the rooms of the supply company (see figure 18 of sketch on page 57). The installations of the platoon were located in the following places on the sketch on page 62:

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- a. Supply room - figure I, 17;
- b. Radio room - figure II, 3;
- c. Code clerk office - figure IV, 2;
- d. Telephone switchboard - figure IV, 8;
- e. Office of the chief of the telephone operators - figure IV, 12; and
- f. Radio transmitter and receiving station - figure IV, 13.

The platoon consisted of about 20 men from the 1930, 31 and 32 recruit classes, a number of whom were junior sergeants. The command personnel consisted of the following three officers and one Master Sergeant:

- a. Petko KOLEV, Sr. Lt., Commander; described in para 58 f (1) above;
- b. GERMANOV (fnu), Lt., Deputy Commander; described in para 58 f (2) above;
- c. ZHELYAZKOV (fnu), Jr. Lt.; described in para 58 f (3) above; and
- d. VASILEV (fnu), M/Sgt., platoon sergeant

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[redacted] most of the members had "Mauser" rifles and [redacted] no sub-machine guns in the unit.

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During the spring or at the beginning of the summer of 1952, this communications platoon installed signal flare wires in the areas of the zastava located in the place known as Kongora (see sketch on page 66) and in the zastava near the village of Novo Khodzovo (see figure 4 of sketch on page 70, Sveti Vrach Okoliya Informant served.

On 18-20 October 1953, three or four soldiers of the platoon arrived in Rosa Zastava in the place known as Kongora in order to repair the old flare wires.

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### Upper Platoon (Sapayoren Zavod)<sup>9</sup>

The platoon was quartered in the barracks of the Otryad in Petrich, and probably in some of the rooms of the supply company (see figure 18 of sketch on page 57). The soldiers of the platoon were equipped with Vintovka and Mauser rifles. There were also a few sub-machine guns in the unit. For the location of the supply room of the platoon, see figure I, 11 of sketch on page 62.

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The platoon consisted of approximately 30 soldiers from the 1930, 31 and 32 recruit classes. The command personnel were two officers, one Master Sergeant, one sergeant and one junior sergeant.

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- a. ATANASOV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Commander; described in para 58 b (4) above; and
- b. MILEV (fnu), Jr. Lt.

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From the middle of 1951 until the autumn of 1952, the soldiers of the platoon were building a barbed wire fence along the border line from the zastava in the place known as Beliya Kamik (White Stone; N 4122 E 2314) to the Struma River (N 4121 E 2320). ~~Information was taken from a distance in April 1952.~~

Although the fortifications and other engineering works along the border were supposed to be finished as quickly as possible, no sappers were sent from the sapper battalion at Border Guard Headquarters in Sofia to 3 Border Guard Otryad, Petrich.

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In approximately June 1953 a company<sup>10</sup> of special sappers from the Interior Troops (Vnutreshni Voyski) were attached to 3 Border Guard Otryad, Petrich.

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it consisted of approximately 140 soldiers. The company was commanded by approximately five to seven officers and it remained in the area of the Otryad until September 1953 and subsequently departed in an unknown direction. During the time spent with the Otryad, the company built a new fence of barbed wire. (see para

### Training School for Border Dogs

The training school for border dogs had no Podelenie nor code name. It was attached to the Maneuver Group of the Otryad and formed every year. The soldier personnel were quartered in the barracks of the Maneuver Group (see figures 5 and 6 of sketch on page 59).

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95. Approximately 20-30 soldiers, all from the 1932 recruit class, were attached to this training school in 1953. They were assigned to the training school from the different zastavas in the Otryad and after they completed the course returned to their respective zastavas. The command personnel of the school consisted of the following officer and two sergeants:

a. Kiril PAVLOV, Jr. Lt., Commander

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b. NIKOLOV (fnu), M/Sgt.

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c. VUKADINOV (fnu), Sgt.

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96. The kennels were located between the south side of the Otryad shooting-range and the fence, approximately 80 meters west of the Otryad weapons storehouse (see figure 27 of sketch on page 57). There were approximately 30 dogs, for each of which a separate and primitive kennel was built. The dogs used were an ordinary variety gathered from the nearby villages. They were trained to bark when they saw a person or when they heard a noise. In addition, the Otryad had four tracking (Raziskni) dogs, trained at Zemen. These dogs lived together and their names were "Dzhulbaras", "Mecho" and "Lik". The latter was a very well trained dog.

97. [redacted] the training period for the dogs in the school lasted two or three months. After finishing the training period, the soldiers with their dogs returned to the same zastavas from which they had been sent.

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#### Military Police or Commandant Section

98. [redacted]  
See figure II, 2 of sketch on page 62 for the location of the Military Police Headquarters and figure 21 of sketch on page 59 for the situation of the guard house and barracks for the soldiers of the unit. The section was composed of ten soldiers of the 1931 and 32 recruit classes and commanded by one officer, Sr. Lt. LAZAROV (fnu) who was described in para 58 b (3) above. See figure II, 11 of sketch on page 62 for the situation of LAZAROV's office. The deputy commander was a Jr. Sgt. and from June 1952 to February 1953, for approximately ten months, Informant occupied this position.

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99. Each soldier of the section had one Vintovka rifle, the Jr. Sgt. had a Schmeiser sub-machine gun and a TT (Tulski Tukarpv) pistol and the commander carried only a TT pistol.

100. Every day from 1200 to 2400 hours the Military Police Section posted a patrol consisting of two soldiers, while the remainder of the section served in the offices at Otryad headquarters. The Jr. Sgt. personally provided protection for the Otryad Commander. He carried a document signed by the Otryad Commander which allowed him free movement in the town at any time of the day or night. The Jr. Sgt. signed the leave booklets of the other soldiers in the section. The soldiers of the section were not obliged to obey other officers nor the Militia and they had the same privileges as their Jr. Sgt. only when they were on duty. The military police patrols checked the dress of the officers and soldiers and the leave booklets (Otpusnite Bileti) of other soldiers whom they met on the street. In February 1953, a change was made whereby an officer was also attached to the day patrol.

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Supply Company (Domakinska Rota)

101. The Supply Company had no [ ] code name. See figure 18 of sketch on page 57 for the location of the barracks of the Supply Company which was composed of 40 soldiers from the 1930, 31 and 32 recruit classes.

[ ] The command personnel of the company were three officers [ ]

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a. KOZHUKHAROV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Quartermaster; described in para 58 j (1) above; and

b. KOTEV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Assistant Quartermaster; described in para 58 j (2).

102. The company was equipped with Vintovka carbines and approximately 15 Schmeisser submachine guns. The soldiers attached to the supply company took part in every big action of the Otryad.

103. The following were attached to the company:

a. Food warehouse, occupied two big rooms in the basement of the Otryad Hq. building; the dimensions of one were approximately 10 by 10 meters and the other approximately 8 by 4 meters (see figure I 12 and 9 of sketch on page 62); All kinds of food were stored here;

b. Supply room (Veshtevi Solad), occupied some rooms in the basement of the Otryad Hq. building (see figure I, 7, 13, 14 and 15 of sketch on page 62. Large quantities of every kind of Border Guard uniform and equipment, including replacement and repair materials, were kept in these rooms;

c. Motor vehicles, kept in an open shed which was without sides (see figure 19 of sketch on page 57 ; included the following:

- (1) 5 to 16 trucks, Molotovka and ZIS, all in use;
- (2) Four Soviet jeeps, for the Otryad Commander, the chief of staff, the political commander and the Reconnaissance Section (R.S.);
- (3) One Motorcycle, with side-car;
- (4) Two Motorcycles, without side-cars;
- (5) One 2-wheeled horse-cart, used by the Otryad hospital; and
- (6) Approximately 25 horse-carts, attached to the Otryad Komandaturas and Zastavas;

d. Cattle, approximately 40 saddle and pack horses, two cows and approximately 40 pigs, large and small; the horses were kept in the two stables (see figures 15 and 16 of sketch on page 57 ; during the summer the Otryad sent a saddle horse to each zastava commander; and

e. Workshops, situated in the company barracks building (see figure 18 of sketch on page 57 , included the following:

- (1) Carpenter shop, two soldiers and one civilian;
- (2) Smithy, three soldiers and one civilian;
- (3) Shoemaker shop, one soldier and five civilians;
- (4) Tailor shop, two soldiers and three civilians;
- (5) Machine shop and Gunsmith shop, five soldiers, see figure 14 of sketch on page 57; and
- (6) Hay storage barns, see figure 12 of sketch on page 59.

104. The main purpose of the Supply Company was to assure the delivery of foodstuffs, supply and building materials to the zastavas by means of trucks and carts, to transport the different foodstuffs and other material from the Petrich railroad station to the barracks, and to transport barbed wire for building new fences near the border. The Supply Company also had a training program but the command personnel never used it.

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Arsenal or Weapons Depot

105. The Arsenal was located in the basement of the Otryad Hq. building (see figure 18 of sketch on page 62). One officer and three senior sergeants who were gun and ammunition experts were in charge of this weapons depot. Sr. Lt. VARADINOV (fnu), who was described in para 58 k (1) above, was the chief of the depot.

106. [redacted] The depot occupied a room with dimensions of approximately 8 by 5 meters and contained the following:

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- a. Rifles, Manlicher, Mauser, Vintovka, short and long;
- b. Submachine guns, Shpagin and Schmeiser;
- c. Machine guns, Degtyarov and Bren;
- d. Heavy machine guns, Maksim Sokolov and M.G. - 34;
- e. Mortars, Rheinmetal;
- f. Pistols, Parabellum and T.T. (Tulski Tukarov); and
- g. Rifles, sniper;

25X1

107. There were also approximately 5 to 6 small cannons, 76 mm. 1902/30, which were kept in the shed which is figure 9 of sketch on page 58.

Ammunition Dump

108. The Ammunition Dump was located in a small house shown as figure 13 of the sketch on page 58. Attached to the dump was a small, underground pill-box with dimensions of approximately 3 by 3 meters which was built during June-July 1953 (see figure 13a of sketch on page 58). The dump consisted of three rooms which contained all kinds of military ammunition which was maintained in sealed wooden boxes.

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[redacted] The dump area was fenced with barbed wire which ran approximately five meters from each wall of the dump. One could enter it only when the chief of the unit or one of his assistants was present. The dump was managed by Sr. Lt. VARADINOV (fnu) of para 105 above. [redacted] there were no other ammunition dumps in the Otryad area.

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109. See figures 25 and 26 of the sketch on page 57 for the location of the Otryad shooting-range.

Fuel Dump

110. The location of the Fuel Dump is shown as figure 20 of sketch on page 57. It was a small, half-underground house, with several windows, built of brick and having the dimensions of approximately 6 by 4 meters and approximately one and one-half meters above the ground. Informant believes that the fuel was kept in barrels. The area was fenced with barbed wire which was approximately three meters beyond each wall of the house. Day and night there was a permanent guard post in front of the dump. There were more than 100 barrels, both full and empty, in the dump area. A sergeant managed the dump.

Hospital or Dispensary

111. The hospital was outside the Otryad area and located in a two-story house in Petrich on the south side of the highway bridge coming from the railroad station. It was situated approximately 50 meters south of this bridge and approximately 50 meters east of the river, on a street parallel to the river. The hospital occupied this entire building, the dimensions of which were approximately 12 by 12 meters. There were four rooms on each floor and the hospital also contained a dental office. However, there was no X-ray machine.

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112. The personnel of the hospital consisted of four doctors who were officers and periodically visited the zastavas and three medical sergeants [redacted]

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- a. VELICHKOV (fnu), Captain, chief of the hospital and a surgeon [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1
- b. EVLOGIEV (fnu), Lieutenant, surgeon [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1
- c. MILEV (fnu), Jr. Lt., surgeon [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1
- d. YONKOV (fnu), Captain, dentist [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1

Observation Post (NP; Nablyudatelen Post) of VNOS (Vuzduzhna Nablyudatelna Osvedomitelna Sluzhba; Aerial Observation, Information and Communications)

3. There was an NP post of the VNOS in Petrich which [redacted] was attached to 3 Border Guard Otryad which supplied the post with food. This post was situated in a hut on the roof of the 3-story National Bank building in Petrich which is across the street from and south of the city park (Gradska Gradina). The post was manned by five soldiers, commanded by one officer, a lieutenant, and the soldiers were quartered in the bank building. 25X1

Special Units Formed by 3 Border Guard Otryad

4. The following zastavas were formed for special types of Border Guard activity:
- a. Rear Zastavas (Tilna Zastavas) composed of approximately 30 soldiers from the Maneuver Group, armed with Vintovka carbines and Schmeisser machine guns, were formed for a temporary period and subordinate to the Otryad staff; these zastavas had separate code names and maintained sekret posts (Sekretna Posta) on bridges; and
- b. Operational Zastavas (Operativna Zastavas) were stationed at border sectors where border crossing in either direction was easiest from May to November; a regular zastava was converted to an Operational Zastava which consisted of 70-80 soldiers (almost double the regular zastava strength) and 6-7 officers; two-thirds of the soldiers were from the Maneuver Group and the remainder from the Komandatura Reserve Company; during the 1952 and 1953 summers, Roza Zastava of 2 Komandatura became an Operational Zastava; [redacted] 25X1  
the zastava located at Kolarevo, Petrich Okoliya, became an Operational Zastava during the summers.
5. During national holidays, particularly on 1 May and 9 September, reinforcements from the Otryad Maneuver Group were sent to the komandaturas and zastavas located in operational areas or areas where a violation had recently occurred. These reinforcements usually consisted of one, two or three squads from the Maneuver Group which arrived on duty about 5-7 days before the holiday and remained in the area until about 10 days after the holiday.

(Grupi za Sudeystvie) Assistance Groups

6. Assistance Groups (GS; Grupi za Sudeystvie) were formed from among the active BCP (Bulgarian Communist Party) and DSNM members of the cities and villages. They were appointed and organized by the RS (Razuznavatelna Sluzhba) Section of the Otryad and many were older men. They were armed with weapons which they could keep at home and they had a leader whom the RS Section could contact to alert the group and lead it into action. The group assisted with surveillance and searches and the members were informers for the Otryad. [redacted] 25X1  
cities and towns which had Assistance Groups attached to 3 Border Guard Otryad:

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- a. Petrich;
- b. Elshnitsa, Petrich Okoliya;
- c. Kolarevo, Petrich Okoliya;
- d. Klyuch, Petrich Okoliya;
- e. Topolnitsa, Petrich Okoliya;
- f. Kulata, Petrich Okoliya;
- g. Mari Kostenovo, Petrich Okoliya;
- h. Dragush, Petrich Okoliya;
- i. Piperitsa, Sandanski Okoliya; and
- j. Shirbanovo, Sandanski Okoliya.

17. [ ] the Petrich Assistance Group which consisted of 20-30 persons. [ ] joined forces with the Otryad only when a large area of activity was involved and the Otryad was unable to cover the area alone. At such times the members of the group were armed with Manlicher rifles and participated in Otryad patrols, ambushes, etc. The group could call on 7-8 persons from each neighboring village for additional assistance. Every evening 2-men patrols from the group patrolled the different quarters of Petrich. Each member of the group was issued by the Otryad RS Section and sometimes by the DS a pass which allowed the member to carry weapons and check the documents of suspect persons.

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18. The members of the Assistance Groups were appointed upon recommendation by the DS. [ ] members of the Petrich Assistance Group;

- a. Boyan (lnu) [ ]

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- b. Boris (lnu), called "Boreto" [ ]

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#### pointment, Salary, Training and Promotion of 3 Border Guard Officers

19. Some of the 3 Border Guard soldiers were commissioned officers as a result of good service, such as catching a border violator. As examples, some Jr. Sgts. received direct commissions as Jr. Lts.

20. A Jr. Lt. received 750 Leva per month but this amount varied according to the assignment held.

21. Some of the officers of 3 Border Guard Otryad received their training in the school for Border Guard officers (see para 4 above) and some were also sent to the USSR for special training. [ ] Border Guard officer who was sent to the USSR for special training in the autumn of 1952;

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- a. ZANDOV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Chief of 3 Border Guard RS (Reconnaissance) Section.

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22. Every year on 9 September the Ministry of Interior issued promotion orders for Border Guard officers. [ ] promotions of 3 Border Guard officers received on 9 September 1953;

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- a. To Captain - ORMANOV (fnu), KOSTADINOV (fnu), KOLCHEV (fnu), Matey Nedkov IVANOV, MITEV (fnu) and YONKOV (fnu);
- b. To Sr. Lt. - ATANASOV (fnu), LAZAROV (fnu), KISYOV (fnu), Petko KOLEV, Khristo GULUBOV TAUSHANOV, Kamen DRAGOV, Ivan Mitov IVANOV, Borislav Sv. BRATOEV,

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Ventseslav DIMITROV, TOSHKOV (fnu), TODOROV (fnu), NIKOLOV (fnu), POPOV (fnu), RANGELOV (fnu), LAMEREV (fnu), PRUCHARSKI (fnu), PEYKOV (fnu), ILIEV (fnu), TOMOV (fnu), NEDEV (fnu), GANEV (fnu) and SLAVKOV (fnu);

- c. To Lt. - PENEV (fnu), DUNKOV (fnu) and MIRAZHCHEV (fnu); and
- d. To Jr. Lt. - MILEV (fnu) and STAYKOV (fnu).

#### Status and Wages of Non-Commissioned Officers of 3 Border Guard Otryad

- 123. The sergeants of the Otryad were on friendly terms with the soldiers whose respect they generally held. Of the 50 sergeants and senior sergeants in 3 Border Guard Otryad, only 4 to 6 of them held permanent grades and the rest were temporary appointments to these grades. Promotions mainly resulted from successful capture of illegal persons.
- 124. The wages of the non-commissioned officers varied according to their assignments. The permanent sergeants and temporary senior sergeants who were not included in the T/O of the Otryad received the following wages:
  - a. 14 Leva per month as squad commanders; and
  - b. 18 Leva per month as assistant platoon commanders.

#### Condition of Weapons of 3 Border Guard Otryad

- 125. The Soviet weapons were the best weapons in 3 Border Guard Otryad. However, there was a shortage of replacement parts for these weapons. The weapons repair shop of the Otryad could only repair Mauser and Manlicher rifles and Schmeiser and Shpagen sub-machine guns.

#### Visits of Soviet Personnel to 3 Border Guard Otryad

- 126. During Informant's service in 3 Border Guard Otryad, Soviet military or civilian personnel visited the barracks of the Otryad only three times, as follows:
  - a. During the spring of 1952, an unidentified Soviet civilian, who was about 40 years old, fat, short and with blond hair, visited the Otryad Headquarters, including the barracks of the Otryad units in the vicinity of Petrich, for about 4 to 5 days; he did not visit the Zastavas near the border and after his visit he returned to Sofia;
  - b. During August 1953, a Soviet Colonel made a similar visit to Otryad Headquarters which lasted for about 5 to 6 days; he was about 40 years old, 1.80 meters tall, fat, heavy build, straight brown hair worn "a la brosse," short-cut brown moustache, ruddy complexion, full oval face; and he spoke Bulgarian; and
  - c. During September 1953, an unidentified Soviet Lieutenant, who was a member of the International Committee for Settling Greco-Bulgarian Border Disputes, visited the Otryad for an unknown number of days.

#### CP (Communist Party) and DSNM Groups in 3 Border Guard Otryad

- 127. The Otryad CP (Communist Party) Club of the Otryad occupied a room on the second floor of the Otryad Headquarters building (see figure III, 11 of sketch on page 62).
- 128. There were DSNM groups in each Zastava and Komandatura as well as one for the Otryad staff and their membership included about 50 percent of the soldiers.

#### Attitude of Soldiers in 3 Border Guard Otryad

- 129. The Border Guard service contained persons considered reliable by the Government. As a result, a small number of Border Guard soldiers attempt to escape although they have many opportunities.
- 130. Most of the soldiers of the Otryad were uneducated villagers who accepted the Communist propaganda which their political instructors taught them.

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most of the soldiers were dissatisfied, not because of hazardous duty but for the following reasons:

- a. Dislike of the commanding officers;
- b. Length of service required for the Border Guards; and
- c. Difficult duty such as long hours and too many patrols.

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#### Entertainment and Sports for 3 Border Guard Otryad Soldiers

131. An entertainment group composed of 20 to 30 soldiers and a dance orchestra organized parties for the Otryad soldiers in the Otryad club in Petrich every Saturday and Sunday. Entrance to these parties was free for all Border Guard soldiers on city leave. Every 1 May, 9 September and New Years Eve a banquet was organized for the Otryad soldiers.
132. The Otryad had a football, a basketball and a track team, all of which were named Spartak (the name given to all sport groups attached to the Ministry of Interior). These teams took part in national Border Guard contests which were held once every year. For 1953, the contests were held in Sofia during August and 3 Border Guard Otryad took third place in the competition.

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#### Component Units of 3 Border Guard Otryad in 1953

133. The component units of 3 Border Guard Otryad were:

- a. 1 Komandatura, located in Petrich, composed of: [redacted] Code Name Cheshma,

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- (1) 1 Zastava, located in the Ograzhden mountains, Podalenie [redacted] Code Name Klyuch;

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- (2) 2 Zastava, located near Goga (N 4127 E 2300), [redacted] Code Name [redacted];

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- (3) 3 Zastava, located near Zlatovo (N 4123/24 E 2259), Code Name Karamfil; and

- (4) 4 Zastava, located near [redacted] (N 4122 E 2258/59), Code Name Temenuga,

- b. 2 Komandatura, located in Petrich, [redacted] Code Name Pamet,

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- (1) 1 Zastava, located near [redacted] (N 4122 E 2301), [redacted] Code Name Lyulyak (formerly Klyuch);

25X1

- (2) 2 Zastava, located in Kolarevo (N 4123 E 2305), Code Name Struma (formerly Kolarevo);

- (3) Piket Detail, located in the area called Lopovo (N 4120 E 2305), [redacted] Code Name Nezabavka; unit terminated in autumn of 1952;

25X1

- (4) 3 Zastava, located in the place known as Kongora (N 4119 E 2310), [redacted] Code Name Roza (formerly Karamfil);

25X1

- (5) 4 Zastava, located at the place known as Beliya Kamik (N 4122 E 2313/14), [redacted] Code Name Breza (formerly Temenuga);

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- (6) 5 Zastava, located near [redacted] (N 4124 E 2314), [redacted] Code Name believed to be Minzukhar (formerly Lyulyak); and

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- (7) 6 Zastava, located at Topolnitsa (N 4124 E 2319),  
Code Name believed to be Malina (formerly Struma)
- c. 3 Komandatura, located in Petrovo, Sandanski Okoliya,  
Code Name Yantra, composed of:
- (1) 1 Zastava, located near Kulata, Petrich Okoliya (N 4122/23 E 2321/22),  
Code Name believed to be Kokiche (formerly Roza);
- (2) 2 Zastava, located near Novo Khodzovo, Sandanski Okoliya (N 4124 E 2324),  
Code Name Elkha (formerly Breza);
- (3) 3 Zastava, located near Lekhovo, Sandanski Okoliya (N 4124 E 2329),  
Code Name Bor;
- (4) 4 Zastava, located at Goleshovo, Sandanski Okoliya (N 4126 E 2336),  
Code Name Buk; and
- (5) 5 Zastava, located somewhere on "Ali Botush" mountain (N 4122/23 E 2336/38),  
Code Name Mur.

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Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

34. 1 Komandatura, Code Name Cheshma (fountain), was located in Petrich  
and the members of the unit were quartered in the Border Guard barracks which are  
figure 6 of the sketch on page 59 and the sketch on page 64. officers  
in 1 Komandatura
- a. Ivan Vasilov DELCHEV, Captain, Commander of 1 Komandatura
- b. POPOV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Chief of Staff
- c. VACHEV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Political Commander
- d. STAYKOV (fnu), Jr. Lt., Mess Officer
- e. RANGELOV (fnu), Sr. Lt., RO (Razuznavatelen Otdel; Army Intelligence) Officer;
- f. LAMBREV (fnu), Sr. Lt., RO Officer
- g. ILIEV (fnu), Sr. Lt., described in para 68 f above; and
- h. PETKOV (fnu), Jr. Lt., Commander of Reserve Company

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135. The Reserve Company<sup>13</sup> of the Komandatura consisted of one or two officers, a Company Sergeant (Serzhant na Rotata) and 40-50 soldiers, approximately 10 of whom were junior sergeants. All the soldiers were of the 1930, 31 and 32 recruit classes.
136. The weapons of the Reserve Company were Vintovka rifles and carbines and Shpagin sub-machine guns, the quantity of which Informant does not know. The company also had one Bren and one Degtyarov light machine gun and one Maksim Sokolov heavy machine gun, all, belonging to the Komandatura. For the weapons and ammunition depot of 1 Komandatura, see figure 11 of the sketch on page 59. For the supply depot of the Komandatura, see figure 7 of the same sketch on page 59. The Komandatura had 5-6 horse-carts which were driven by soldiers of the Otryad Supply Company.
137. The Komandatura operated a telephone switchboard, with 5-6 soldiers under the control of the commander of the Otryad Communications Platoon, which serviced both 1 and 2 Komandaturas. The Komandatura also maintained a large radio station for the Otryad but Informant can give no further information about this.
138. In cases of alert, 1 Komandatura posted patrols along the roads around Petrich and when necessary sent reinforcements to the zastavas. In the event of an Otryad alarm or large-scale action, 1 Komandatura took active part with the Otryad Maneuver Group.

Zastavas of 1 Komandatura

139. 1 Zastava, [redacted] was located somewhere in the Ograzhden mountains. The code name of the Zastava was Klyuch [redacted]

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140. 2 Zastava, [redacted] code name Kolarevo, Second Line, was located in the outskirts of the village of Gega, Petrich Okoliya, in a small ravine west of the Petrich-Gega road and approximately 100-150 meters from the last houses on the southwest edge of Gega. The Zastava consisted of 5-6 ordinary village houses which were not surrounded by barbed wire and were not conspicuous as part of a military installation. There was no electricity in the Zastava which used gas lamps.

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[redacted] 15-16 soldiers in the compound. [redacted]

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[redacted] The Zastava Commander during January 1953 was:

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a. ILCHOVSKI (fnu), Lt. [redacted]

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141. 3 Zastava, [redacted] code name Karamfil, Third Line, was located about 800 meters west of the village of Zlatarevo, Petrich Okoliya, on a narrow road branching off the Petrich-Yugoslav border road. The building of the Zastava was one ~~waterproof~~ ~~stone~~ structure, 10 by 20 meters in size, ~~white~~ ~~red~~ ~~roof~~, ~~with~~ was located on open ground and could be seen from a considerable distance. Since August 1953, another building was under construction, approximately 50 meters from the Zastava building. The second building would house the officers and their families. There was no electricity in the Zastava and gas lamps were used.

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142. 4 Zastava, [redacted] code name Temenuga, Fourth Line, was located in the vicinity of the village of Gabrene, Petrich Okoliya. [redacted]

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and 2 Zastava, 2 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

5. 1 Zastava, [ ] code name Lyulyak (lilac), Fifth Line, was located on a road running along the top of a ridge between two ravines, southwest of the village of Klyuch, Petrich-Okoliya. The Zastava was housed in a red-roofed, white building which resembled that of Karamfil Zastava (see para 141 above). However, this Zastava building was situated in thick woods and approximately one kilometer southwest of a KHOREMAG (Enterprise of Hotels, Restaurants, Stores) building which was a former flour mill. There was no electricity in the Zastava or the village of Klyuch. The Zastava had no radio set. [ ]

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- a. Personnel - approximately two officers and 40 soldiers; and
- b. Weapons - unknown number of Vintovka rifles and Shpagin sub-machine guns, two Degtyarov light machine guns and one Maksim Sokolov heavy machine gun.

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6. 2 Zastava, [ ] code name Struma, Sixth Line, was located on the south side of the Petrich-Klyuch road and about 50 meters east of the highway bridge in the western part of the village of Kolarevo. The Zastava building was a red-roofed, white structure which differed from the nearby village houses and was situated in an uninhabited section near the outskirts of the village. Although the Zastava area was not fenced-off, there was a 24-hour guard-post located on the road in front of the Zastava. [ ]

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[ ] one officer and approximately 40 soldiers in the Zastava. The weapons of this Zastava were the same as those of Lyulyak Zastava (see para 145 above). The left boundary (stik; dividing line between two zastavas) of 2 Zastava began at the old (pre-Communist) Bulgarian Border Post No. 5 (N 4120 E 2308/09). [ ]

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Piket Detail of 2 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

7. Piket Details were additional border posts, sometimes only established in summer and generally established in an area where the distance was great between zastavas or between one zastava and the border, or in a particular section where a border crosser was expected. Piket Detail, code name Nezabrayka (forget-me-not) of 2 Komandatura was located within the area of the forest enterprise (gorsko stopanstvo) in the place known as Lopovo (N 4120 E 2305). This Piket Detail was established in May 1952 to primarily cover some of the large area of Struma Zastava which was located at some distance from the border. The Piket was formed from members of the Otryad Maneuver Group and 2 Komandatura Reserve Company and consisted of one platoon of approximately 30 soldiers, commanded by Lt. Kamen DRAGOV. There were no barracks for the soldiers of the Piket who were quartered in tents. [ ]
- [ ] this Piket [ ] was disbanded in the autumn of 1952 when the members of the unit returned to their original units. [ ]

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8. It was rumored among the Border Guards of 3 Otryad that 2 Komandatura was to be moved to the village of Kolarevo and that Struma Zastava was to be moved to the location of the Piket Detail in Lopovo. 11

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Zastava, 2 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

9. 3 Zastava, [ ] code name Roza, Seventh Line, was located on the northern slope of Kongora height (N 4119 E 2310), approximately two kilometers from the border and east, southeast of the area known as Kurorta (N 4120 E 2310). The Zastava was situated on the east side of the Petrich-border road where the road forms a large curve. A thick forest surrounded the Zastava, the thicker part being in the direction of Petrich while on the border side of the Zastava there were smaller beech trees. The peak of Kongora was on the border. The Zastava building, started in 1951 with one room and completed in the winter of [ ]

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1951-52, was a red-roofed, white structure in the shape of a double "L" with a flower garden in the center. There were no other buildings in the vicinity of the Zastava which was not visible from a great distance. The Zastava was situated in a forest-clearance about 200 meters in diameter and connected with Kongora peak by another forest-clearance which was about 100 meters wide. The area was not enclosed by barbed wire. However, the Zastava building was surrounded by zig-zag trenches at approximately 7-8 meters distance from the building. Three underground bunkers, about 10 meters from the Zastava building, were situated on the south, east and northwest sides of the area and connected to the zig-zag trenches by smaller trenches. [redacted] they were 2 by 2 meters in size, constructed of logs and covered with earth. The entrance of each bunker faced the Zastava building and each bunker had three firing apertures (ambrazuri) which faced in the opposite direction. The Zastava had no electricity and had 3-4 gas lamps.

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0. On the western side of the Petrich-border road and approximately 4-5 meters west of the Zastava there was a tree observation post placed on a platform in a large beech tree. The tree was about 20 meters high and the platform about 15 meters from the ground. A Zastava guard known as a Chasovna Zastava (Zastava Sentinel) was posted here. He carried binoculars. During the night this guard descended the tree and circled the Zastava building. [redacted] an excellent observation of the surrounding area.

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1. The Zastava had a large radio set which operated on batteries, was usually kept locked and could only be opened for the use of the Zastava officers. The daily operation schedule of the radio was from 0600 to 0900 hours, 1200 to 1430 or 1500 hours and 1730 or 1800 hours till bedtime. Radio Sofia was usually the only station heard on this radio. The newspaper "Granichar" was received regularly at the Zastava and loaned to the soldiers who had to sign for it.

52. [redacted] Roza Zastava [redacted] During the summer season, from the time when the forests turned green until the leaves dropped from the trees, the entire Zastava was proclaimed an Operational Zastava (Operativna Zastava) and functioned under reinforced strength. A newly formed platoon of 30 soldiers from the Otryad Maneuver Group and Komandatura Reserve Company was assigned to the Zastava. See para 114, b for the description of an Operational Zastava. The normal strength of 3 Zastava was 50 but when it became an Operational Zastava the strength increased to 80. The soldiers of Roza Zastava were from the 1930, 1931 and 1932 recruit classes. Of the 1930 class, which was scheduled to be discharged on 2 November 1953, there were 12-13 soldiers in the Zastava. 15-16 of the 80 soldiers were junior sergeants and about 25-26 were eligible to lead guard details. Only the junior sergeants were eligible to serve as soldier-of-the-day (dezhturen po zastava). There were two sergeants assigned as squad commanders in Roza Zastava. 50 percent of the soldiers of Roza Zastava were DSNM members. Until 22 October 1953, the following soldiers were assigned to Roza Zastava [redacted]

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- a. DIMITROV (fnu)
- b. IVANCHEV (fnu)
- c. KOSTOV (fnu),
- d. PETROV (fnu),
- e. GEORGIEV (fnu)
- f. PARICHEV (fnu)
- g. VURBANOV (fnu)
- h. MILCHO IVANOV,
- i. Ivan Dachev KAZAKOV, Jr. Sgt.
- j. Dimo MIKHAYLOV, Pvt.
- k. Khristo Petkov KRISTEV, Pvt.
- l. Petko KOLEV, Pvt.
- m. Mikhail Filipov PUSHKIN, Pvt.,
- n. Milush Krustev GRUNCHAROV, Pvt.
- o. Georgi ANGELOV, Pvt.
- p. Manol Ivanov DIMITROV, Pvt.
- q. Ivan RAFAILOV, Pvt.

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The normal officer strength of Roza Zastava was four, but it was increased to six when the Zastava became an Operational Zastava. [redacted] officers in the Zastava:

- a. BANCHEV (fnu), Jr. Lt., Commanding Officer [redacted]
- b. MARKOV (fnu), Jr. Lt., Assistant Commanding Officer (Zamestnik Komandir): [redacted]
- c. DIMITROV (fnu), Lt., Assistant Commanding Officer for Political Affairs [redacted]
- d. TENEV (fnu), Jr. Lt., duty unknown [redacted]
- e. VODINICHAROV (fnu), Lt., temporarily assigned to the Zastava when it became operational; described in para 58 c (4) above; and
- f. NIKOLOV (fnu), Sr. Lt., temporarily assigned to the Zastava when it became operational; described in para 58 g (1) above.

#### ment and Equipment of 3 Zastava, 2 Komandatura

3 Zastava had the following weapons:

- a. Shpagin sub-machine guns - about 25 pieces;
- b. Schneiser sub-machine guns - about 5 pieces;
- c. Vintovka rifles and carbines - about 50 pieces;
- d. Degtyarov light machine guns - 2 pieces;
- e. Bren light machine gun - 1 piece; and
- f. Maksim Sokolov heavy machine gun - 1 piece.

[redacted] that Roza Zastava had depots for weapons and combat supplies.

[redacted] The following ammunition and equipment were kept in a special cabinet in the Zastava Guard House which was occupied by the officer and soldier-of-the-day:

- a. Clips with ammunition for automatic weapons - 50-60;
- b. Cartridge-boxes with ammunition - 50-60;
- c. Offensive and defensive grenades - 50-60;
- d. Telephone receivers with wire - 3; and
- e. Binoculars - about 4.

The weapons issued each soldier were kept on an open wrack in the corridor in front of the sleeping quarters. Combat supplies were issued to the patrols (naryada) immediately prior to their departure and upon their return were immediately turned over to the soldier-of-the-day. Combat supplies were also issued by the soldier-of-the-day who recorded in a special book the type and quantity of combat supplies issued to each soldier. Ordinarily, a soldier armed with a rifle was issued 60 rounds of ammunition, one offensive grenade and one defensive grenade. A soldier armed with a sub-machine gun was given two full clips plus two grenades, one offensive and one defensive. Soldiers performing guard duty in front of the Zastava were issued half this ammunition.

The Zastava had no means of transportation at its disposal, but during the summer the Commanding Officer was issued one saddle-horse.

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Boundaries (Stikove) of 3 Zastava, 2 Komandatura

158. The western boundary (stik) of 3 Zastava began at the old (pre-Communist) Bulgarian 5th border post (N 4119 E 2308), extended along the path which leads to the village of Eleshnitsa (N 4121/22 E 2307/08) and continued along the Eleshnitsa-Petrich highway to Petrich. The eastern boundary began at Petrich and continued along the basin of the Petrich river to the locality called Kara Burun (N 4119 E 2311). From this point [ ] the boundary extended along the ravine, which bordered the western edge of this area, to the border. Informant is not too sure of the last part of this boundary which was near the border. [ ] the length of the border covered by Roza Zastava was 5-6 kilometers.

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Border Details Manned by 3 Zastava, 2 Komandatura 12

159. The total number of Border Details and patrols manned by 3 Zastava were:
- Charge of Zastava Quarters - one detail;
  - Zastava Guard - one detail;
  - Permanent Posts (Sekreti) - approximately six details;
  - Observation Posts (Nablyudatelni Postove) - approximately 4-6 details;
  - Border Patrols (Dzori) - approximately 8-10 details;
  - Special Ambush Details (Zasadi) - one detail; and
  - Alarm Group (Trevozhna Grupa) - one detail.
160. Generally, during a period of 24 hours, the following details were on duty:
- During the day:
    - Observation Post Details - approximately three details;
    - Border Patrol Details - approximately 2-4 details; and
    - Permanent Post Details - approximately 1-2 details.
  - During the night:
    - Special Ambush Details - one detail;
    - Permanent Post Details - approximately 5-6 details; and
    - Border Patrol Details - approximately 1-2 details.

Blockposts (Blokpostove) of 3 Zastava

161. A Blockpost (Blokpost) is a border point guarded by a trained dog tied to a chain which is attached on a sliding ring to a wire strand stretched between two trees, approximately 20-30 meters long and approximately two meters from the ground. The purpose of a Blockpost was usually to guard a certain path most likely to be used by border crossers. The dog's barking alarmed the border patrols and other border details in the vicinity. Blockposts functioned only during the night and every morning one of the border details in the area returned the dog to the Zastava. [ ]
- Roza Zastava operated two Blockposts which were located near a barbed-wire fence which intersected two paths leading from the locality known as Slavniki. The Zastava had four dogs at its disposal, of which one was kept at the Zastava and the other three were sent to the Blockposts. One of the dogs was called Botyu and it was not a trained dog.

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Permanent Posts (Sekreti) of 3 Zastava, 2 Komandatura

162. The Sekret or Permanent Post was a stationary border detail, consisting of three or more soldiers, generally armed with two sub-machine guns and one rifle and each carrying two grenades, one offensive and one defensive. One of the soldiers was designated leader (starshi) of the detail. The mission of this particular guard detail was to cover a specific location. The orders for each guard detail stated clearly the paths through which the detail should go to and from the designated area. The positions of other Sekrets in the vicinity were also given to the new Sekret for purposes of aid in case of emergency. While the Sekret was in motion and before reaching its designated location, the senior or starshi walked in the middle, while the rest of the soldiers moved at a fairly close distance from each other and within eyesight. Usually the Sekret moved to its position under darkness and only in the event of expected disturbance was it sent in daylight.

163. The Sekret generally consisted of one duty shift, upon completion of which it returned to the Zastava without waiting to be relieved by another shift. When additional protection was needed, under specific orders, a two-shift detail, or a 24-hour detail could be established. The Sekret had no designated time for taking position. It was usually dispatched by order and covered the period from 1700 to 0500 hours. During this period, there was a constant movement of guard details of various shifts, each of which usually lasted 6 to 8 hours. The duty period also included the travel time to and from the designated area. The Zastava Commander or his assistant was personally responsible for briefing, dispatching and meeting every Sekret. He also assigned the password (parol) and the recognition signals to each Sekret. [redacted] the Sekrets were not placed in positions according to any specified system, such as in line of depth. They were usually placed in strategic positions where border violations were most likely to occur. If the Sekret was dispatched to a place near a telephone line, it carried a telephone receiver. Briefings of Sekrets took place just before departure on duty so no one in the barracks had time to spread the word around.

25X1

164. Every locality or area designated for a Sekret had a code name which was assigned to the Sekret. Roza Zastava sent out approximately 5-6 night Sekrets and one or two Sekrets during the day.

[redacted]  
Sekrets of Roza Zastava during 1953:

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a. PROSEKATA (forest cleared strip) Sekret. This Sekret was stationed about 100 meters northeast of the locality known as Pürvata Vishka (first permanent observation post), on the northwest side of the cleared strip, which passed through the forest, and at a distance of only 20 meters from the barbed wire fence placed in the middle of the cleared strip. At this place there was a small ravine between Pürvata Vishka and the path leading south toward the place known as Slamnik (N 4121 E 2311/12). In this ravine the Sekret could choose its own concealment. This area was thickly forested with beech trees which extended as far as the cleared strip. The Sekret usually consisted of three men, two of whom had sub-machine guns and one a rifle, or sometimes two had rifles and only one had a sub-machine gun. The Sekret was one 8-hour, night shift which was always stationary because of its location, only 300-400 meters from the Zastava.

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25X1

[redacted]  
the Sekret were:

The duties of

- (1) To guard the area of the first permanent observation post; and
- (2) To investigate any disturbance if the dog on the chain barked at the Blokpost. (See para 161 above.)

25X1

- b. **SKRITATA NABLYUDATELNI TSA** (hidden observation post) Sekret. This Sekret was located at approximately 100 meters north of the observation post on Kongora height 1951.5 (see sketch on page 66). The area was rocky and bare, without any distinguishing characteristics. To the west, east and slightly to the north of this point there were roads which eventually connected with the Petrich-Kongora road. This particular Sekret did not take any specific position but had a free choice of deployment among the rocks. If this Sekret were set during the daytime it could be observed from a very long distance. Informant claims that through binoculars it could be seen from as far as Breza Zastava (N 4122 E 2313). Because the regular daytime observation post returned to the Zastava at night, this Sekret was stationed to guard the same area at night. The Sekret consisted of two men armed with one sub-machine gun and one rifle.

25X1

- c. **SLAMNIKA** Sekret. This Sekret was located on the highway between Petrich and 3 Zastava, at a point approximately 1500 meters slightly northeast of the Zastava and approximately 800 meters west of the Vtorata Vishka (second permanent observation post). The Sekret was deployed on one or the other side of a short curve in the road and this location was covered with low, dense beech forest. The Sekret was manned night and day and it operated on two shifts, each of which consisted of two men and occasionally three men. The changing of the shifts was done in accordance with prescribed orders. The Sekret on duty either waited to be relieved or returned to the Zastava without waiting for the relief detail.

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[redacted] The location of this Sekret was strategically important mainly because of the several paths leading into it, one of which led to Petrich.

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- d. **OKOPITE** (the trenches) Sekret. This Sekret was located at a point on the road between Petrich and Roza Zastava where a path branched off from the road, approximately 100-150 meters from the pyramid on elevation point (kota) 1070, and approximately 50 meters from the path crossing the ravine. To the south, west and east of the point where the path crossed the small ravine, there were three trenches which were used by the Sekret. The Sekret was manned during the daytime and consisted of three men, one armed with a sub-machine gun and two with rifles. Their duty hours were: 0500 to 1200 hours for the first shift and 1200 to 2000 hours for the second. The shifts were changed at the duty post.

25X1

- e. **CHERVENA PRUST** (red earth) Sekret. This Sekret was located in the area known as ChervenA Prust (N 4119 E 2310), which was intersected by the road leading from the Zastava to the Kongora height. The Sekret was set on either side of the road at a point where the road formed its largest and sharpest curve. This point was a junction of several paths, one of which led from the Zastava and, running straight and intersecting the road at several places, continued on the west side of the road, reached ChervenA Prust, changed to a southwest direction and passing through the locality known as Germanska Cheshma (German fountain), it continued on toward the border. The area in which the Sekret

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25X1

took its position was bare. However, on both sides of this area there was forest, giving the area the appearance of a cleared strip (proseka) pointing south. On both sides of the curve there were several trees which were used as cover by the members of the Sekret.

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25X1

During the day there was a mobile border patrol (dozor) on duty in the vicinity. The Sekret consisted of two men, one armed with a sub-machine gun and the other with a rifle. The Sekret operated one shift from 1900 to 0200-0300 hours.

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25X1

f. PAPULYAKO Sekret.

this Sekret existed and that it was exclusively a night Sekret.

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25X1

g. Permanent Ambush (Postoyanna Zasada). A permanent ambush was located on a hill approximately 200 meters exactly north of the old (pre-Communist) Bulgarian 5th border post (N 4119 E 2308). For this reason it was known as the "Ambush at the 5th Post" (Zasada 5th Post). This ambush was situated just next to a wall-like gray rock, 2 by 2 meters, on top of the hill. A shelter-half hanging from the opposite side of the rock protected the men of the ambush in case of rain. The area from this particular location to the border was bare, while toward the interior it was covered with a thick beech forest. The detail was assigned for a period of 24 hours and carried dry food supplies. The detail remained at the post from 0400 to 0400 hours and until it was relieved. During the day the detail functioned as an observation post and as such it moved as far as the 5th border post, which is now destroyed, from where it observed the area. After dark the detail moved back to its designated place, the rock, and began its function as an ambush. The detail consisted of five men, one of whom was a junior sergeant and in charge of the group which was armed with two sub-machine guns and three rifles. The ambush was actually located at the western marker of 3 Zastava and established for two main reasons:

- (1) To guard the border area which was not protected by a barbed wire fence; and
- (2) To cover the path which began at this particular location and led straight to the village of Eleshnitsa.

there was a lack of seriousness and discipline among the guards. the guards slept all night and built fires during the day. because of the importance of this location, this particular ambush would not be changed if a change were to take place, the new location of the ambush would most likely be somewhere between the 5th post and the Zastava, along the path connecting the area known as Long Meadow (Dulgata Polyana; N 4120 E 2308/09) and 3 Zastava, at a point where the two ravines between the localities Kara Gabar and Kulski Dol joined into a common ravine which continued toward the village of Eleshnitsa (see sketch on page 66). the triangular area between the 5th border post and the locality known as Chervena Prust was not guarded at all.

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25X1  
25X1  
25X1  
25X1

25X1

#### Observation Posts (Nablyudatelni Postove) of 3 Zastava, 2 Komandatura

165. Observation Posts were stationary Border Guard details consisting usually of three men armed with one sub-machine gun and two rifles. When on duty, one of the soldiers observed from a tower (vishka), which was specially constructed for this purpose, or from a platform in a high tree, the second soldier was on the alert and gave protective cover with his weapon, while the third soldier rested. The detail carried a telephone receiver only when assigned to a post near a communication line. Otherwise, the detail communicated with the Zastava through previously established signals.

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25X1

166. The detail was set only during the day and operated from 0500 to 1800 hours. During the summer season, the duty hours were from 0400 to 2000 hours. The observation details operating from tree platforms were not regular, while the ones operating from heights functioned daily. The regularity of the Observation Posts depended upon the discretion of the Zastava Commander. Roza Zastava had the following five Observation Posts, three of which operated from platforms built in tall trees and the remaining two from dominating heights.

- a. KONGORA Observation Post. This post was located approximately 100 meters from the top of the mountain peak of Kongora (N 4119 E 2310) and 20-30 meters east of the road leading to the top of the peak (see sketch on page 66). The area was bare and rocky and the members of the detail hid among the rocks. The detail consisted of three men and operated on two shifts daily from 0500 to 1200 hours and from 1200 hours until almost darkness. Observation was conducted with binoculars. The changing of shifts was done according to previous arrangements, either at the post or enroute between the Zastava and the post. During the night, SKRITATA NABLYUDATEL NITSA Sekret was located approximately 100 meters north of KONGORA Observation Post. Consequently, this particular area was guarded 24 hours a day.
- b. Observation Post near the site of the old (pre-Communist) 5th border post. See para 164 g above for the description of Zasada 5th Post.
- c. PURVATA VISHKA (first tower) Observation Post. This post was located approximately 200 meters north of the Zastava and approximately 100 meters east of the Petrich-Kongora road, at the northern edge of the forest-clearing and approximately 20 meters from the barbed wire fence. The surrounding area was dense, low, beech forest, from which the Zastava could barely be seen. The Observation Post operated from a specially constructed platform, 10 meters high, on a tall, 15-meter beech tree. The main task of this observation detail was to observe the complete length of the forest-clearing and also the barbed wire fence. The detail consisted of two men, armed with one sub-machine gun and one rifle, and operating on two shifts, from 0500 to 1100 hours and from 1100 to 1500-1800 hours.
- d. VTORATA VISHKA (second tower) Observation Post. This post was located approximately 20 meters north of the barbed wire fence which stretched to the south of the locality known as Slammik (N 4121 E 2311/12). The actual position of the Observation Post was between the two paths leading downward from Slammik. All of the remaining data concerning this Observation Post is identical to that of PURVATA VISHKA Observation Post (see para c above).
- e. TRETATA VISHKA (third tower) Observation Post. This post was located approximately 300 meters west of the Petrich river, approximately 20 meters north of the forest-clearing and barbed wire fence (N 4121 E 2312) and west of the locality known as Yalovarnika (see sketch on page 66). All remaining data concerning this Observation Post is identical to that of PURVATA VISHKA Observation Post of para c above.

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25X125X1  
25X1

Border Patrols (Dozori) of 3 Zastava, 2 Komandatura

67. A Border Patrol or Dozor normally consisted of two men, one armed with a sub-machine gun and the other with a rifle, who were responsible for the security of a border area from 500 to 1,500 meters long. The patrol was not responsible for any incidents outside this assigned area. However, the patrol was obliged to assist other patrols in case of emergency. The Dozor always moved along paths and avoided movement through dense forest. The course of movement and the paths to be followed were specifically given in the briefing prior to the dispatch of the patrol.

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25X1

The failure on the part of the patrol to follow the assigned route was punishable by court-martial.

The Border Patrols operated not only near the border itself, but also inland. The majority of the patrols of 3 Zastava were concentrated in the area near the Zastava and more in the direction of Petrich. The assignment of an area for each patrol was given shortly before its dispatch by the Zastava Commander or his deputy. If the assigned area happened to be near a communication line, the patrol was issued a telephone receiver. [redacted] following patrols active in the area of Roza Zastava:

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a. GYULOVA POLYANA Border Patrol. This patrol was located between OKOPITE and SLAMNIKA Sekrets at the point of intersection by the Petrich-Kongora road (N 4121 E 2311). The patrol, consisting of two men, was active only during the daytime and on two shifts, from 0300-0400 to 1000-1100 hours and from 1200 to 2000 hours. The travel time from 3 Zastava to the area of the patrol was included in the duty time of each shift. For the exact location of the area guarded by the patrol see sketch on page 66. [redacted]

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25X1

b. ELESNISHKO DERE Border Patrol. The area assigned to this patrol began at the northern end of the locality known as Gyulova Polyana and continued along the only existing path leading toward Eleshnishko Dere, a ravine (N 4121/22 E 2310). [redacted]

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25X1

[redacted] The length of the assigned area was approximately 2,000 meters and the patrol was a one-shift detail on duty from 0700 to 2000 hours.

c. CHERVEN PRUST Border Patrol. The area assigned to this patrol began at the Zastava compound. The patrol followed a path parallel to the Zastava-Kongora road, crossing it several times, reaching CHERVEN PRUST Sekret and from there continuing in a southwest direction until it reached the locality known as Germanska Cheshma, located approximately 200 meters southwest of CHERVEN PRUST Sekret. The patrol, consisting of two men, was exclusively a daytime patrol, operating from 0400 to 1200 hours. [redacted]

25X1

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[redacted] During the night the security of the area was assumed by CHERVEN PRUST Sekret.

d. PIRAMIDATA Border Patrol. This patrol covered the road and the three paths in the vicinity of elevation (kota) 1070, as well as the paths on the western slopes of that elevation. The patrol consisted of two men and was on duty from 0900 to 1700 hours. Occasionally the patrol operated on two shifts, from 0600 to 1300 hours and from 1300 to 2000 hours. The patrol area consisted of a fairly dense and bushy beech forest. [redacted]

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25X1

e. SLAMNITSITE Border Patrol. This patrol had free movement through the locality known as Slamnitsite (N 4121 E 2311/12) and the vicinity of VTORATA VISHKA Observation Post. The patrol was a two-man detail, operating on one shift from 0800 to 1500-1600 hours. [redacted]

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#### Signal Lines (Signalni Linii), Trip-wires (Avtosignalizatori) and Mines of 3 Zastava

Roza Zastava operated one main signal line which led directly to the old 5th border post (N 4119 E 2308/09). [redacted]

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[redacted] The signal network was installed during the autumn of 1952 by the Communications Platoon of the Otryad (see para 85 above).

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70. [redacted] trip-wires were not used within the area of 3 Zastava and no mine-fields were laid in the Zastava sector. The mine-field in Kongora had been cleared.

#### Security Measures of 3 Zastava After a Border Violation

71. [redacted] in case of an established border violation at a certain border point there was an immediate order given for changes in the deployment of the Zastava details. One or two Sekrets were immediately dispatched to cover the reported place of the border violation, while the Sekrets nearest to the area of the violation were ordered to leave their respective areas and aid the Sekrets at the place of the violation. The same measures were taken in the case of an established escape of a Border Guard. If the route of escape was known, an order was generally given for a change in the deployment of the various border details, except that none of the most suitable points for border crossing were left unguarded.

#### 4 Zastava, 2 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

172. 4 Zastava, [redacted] code name Breza, Eighth Line, was located in the place known as Beliya Kamuk (N 4122 E 2313), on the east side of the Petrich road leading toward the old Bulgarian border post (number unknown) and approximately one kilometer northwest of this old border post. The Zastava building, which was completed in 1951 and is similar to the buildings of 3 and 1 Zastavas of 1 and 2 Komandaturas respectively, was situated in the middle of a field which was surrounded by dense chestnut, elm and beech forest. The building was painted gray, had a red tile roof and was situated on high ground from where it could be seen from a considerable distance.

173. [redacted] With the exception of the southwest side, the Zastava building was surrounded by zig-zag trenches. In April 1951 the Zastava had no bunkers nor barbed wire fence. In front of the Zastava, facing the road, there was a large chestnut tree, approximately 20 meters high. At about 15 meters from the ground there was an observation platform in the tree which was reached by means of a ladder nailed to the tree-trunk. During the day the Zastava guard stood on the platform while at night he performed his duty on the ground. [redacted] the Zastava had no communication lines, electricity, blockposts nor service dogs. There was one cart with two mules and in summer the Zastava Commander was issued a riding horse.

174. In April 1951 the Zastava personnel consisted of 40 soldiers from the 1928, 29 and 30 recruit classes and the Commanding Officer was Sr. Lt. Kamen DRAGOV (described in Para 58 c (3) above) who was assigned to the Otryad Combat Section in 1953. As of October 1953 the Zastava had the following staff of officers:

a. DRAGOV (fnn), Lt., Commanding Officer [redacted]

b. DUNOV (fnn), Lt., Deputy Commander, about 26 years old; medium height and build, curly black hair, dark eyes, black moustache, round face, ruddy complexion; promoted on 9 September 1953; married, one child; and [redacted]

c. SLAVKOV (fnn), Sr. Lt., Political Officer and Deputy Commander [redacted]

175. During 1951 the armament of the Zastava consisted of an unknown number of Vintovka rifles and Shpagin sub-machine guns plus one Maksim Sokolov heavy machine gun and two Degtyarov light machine guns. [redacted]

SECRET

SECRET

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25X1

The Zastava had no observation towers (vishki) when Informant was serving in it. However, one observation tower was constructed during the summer of 1952 in the place known as Yalovarnika (N 4120/21 E 2312/13). It was located at the point where this particular area was intersected by a cleared-strip in the forest and a barbed wire fence (see sketch on page 66). The observation tower was situated approximately 500-600 meters from the border and directly south of the cleared strip.

25X1

25X1

176. The western boundary (stik) of Breza Zastava was the eastern boundary of Roza Zastava. The eastern boundary of Breza Zastava began at Petrich, followed a path and reached the old Bulgarian 10th border post (N 4122 E 2314).

25X1

5 Zastava, 2 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

25X1

177. 5 Zastava, [ ] code name Minzukhar, Ninth Line, was located in the eastern outskirts of the village of Ruzhdiak (N 4124 E 2314), Petrich Okoliya, near the bridge on the road branching-off the Petrich-Drangovo highway. The exact location of the Zastava was approximately 1,000 meters by air from the village and directly southwest of the road mentioned above. The area was practically bare and the Zastava building was similar to those of 3 and 1 Zastavas of 1 and 2 Komandaturas respectively. The Zastava had no electricity and could be seen for a considerable distance from the border.

25X1

25X1

178. The command staff of the Zastava was:

25X1

- a. GANEV (fmu), Sr. Lt., Commanding Officer: [ ]

25X1

- b. NEDEV (fmu), Sr. Lt., Deputy Commander and Political Officer [ ]

25X1

6 Zastava, 2 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

25X1

179. 6 Zastava, [ ] code name Malina, Tenth Line, was located in the immediate outskirts of the village of Topolnitsa (N 4124 E 2319), Petrich Okoliya, on the east side of the path leading to the village cemetery which was located at the border. This Zastava was known to the local inhabitants as Topolnishka Zastava. The Zastava consisted of three white village houses, approximately 10 meters apart, which resembled those of the village. The Zastava compound was surrounded by barbed wire. There was a new Zastava building under construction

25X1

25X1

180.

[ ] the Zastava had no bunkers nor trenches. On the south side of the Zastava and approximately 20 meters from one of the Zastava buildings was a tall tree with a platform which served as daily observation post. The area between the Zastava and the border was covered with bushes while to the east it consisted of arable land. [ ] the armament of 6 Zastava was similar to that of the other Zastavas [ ]

25X1

25X1

[ ] there were no established communication lines, radio nor were there any trip-wires. The Zastava had a horse-cart with two horses and also a horse for the Zastava Commander.

25X1

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25X1

25X1

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181. During May 1952, Malina Zastava had approximately 60 soldiers. The command staff was the following:

a. GOVEDARSKI (fmu), Lt., Commanding Officer in May 1952. subsequently assigned to Otryad Headquarters

25X1

b. MTRAZHCHIEV (fmu), Lt., Deputy Commander during May 1952

25X1

c. TERZIEV (fmu), Lt., Commanding Officer on 22 October 1953

25X1

82. Malina Zastava operated the following two observation towers:

a. One was located on the height (kota) 358.4, known as Banderski Rid (N 4124 E 2317). The area was bare and suitable for long range observation; and

b. The second observation tower was located in arable land between the old Bulgarian 14th border post and the border, at a location (N 4122 E 2319/20). From this particular tower one could see as far as the village of Topolnitsa and also a section of Greek territory. The tower could be seen from the area known as Beliya Kamik of Breza Zastava (see sketch on page 66).

3. Malina Zastava operated the following other border details:

a. The Sekret near Grobishtata was located between the cemetery of Topolnitsa, approximately 100 meters from the border, and a narrow road which led from the border to the village. The detail of this Sekret had a choice of position, outside or inside the cemetery. The area was bare with scattered trees. The Sekret consisted of two men, armed with one rifle and one sub-machine gun, on a night shift which Informant believes began duty at approximately 2000-2100 hours.

b. MOSTA Sekret was stationed on the western side of the Struma bridge (N 4125 E 2319/20) which joined the Petrich-Mari Kostenovo (Petrich Okoliya) road. The Sekret consisted of three men who ordinarily took positions on both sides of the road. The immediate area was thickly wooded with willow trees. The Sekret was usually a night detail, operating on one shift from dusk to dawn.

c. Border Patrol (Dozor) in the area known as Ostrova (N 4122 E 2319/20) which was a triangular area between the border and the Struma river. This Dozor moved freely within this triangular area and also toward the old Bulgarian 14th border post. The Dozor consisted of two men, armed with one rifle and one sub-machine gun, and operated on two shifts, the first from 0700-0800 to approximately 1500 hours and the second from approximately 1500 to 2000 hours. Prior to its return to the Zastava, the second shift also had the job of controlling the movement of farm workers in the area.

25X1

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3 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

184. 3 Komandatura [redacted] Code Name Yantra (river) was located in the village of Petrovo (N 4120 E 2330), Sveti Vrach Okoliya. The staff of the Komandatura was quartered in the village and the barracks area, consisting of four to five buildings, was located on a small rise about 200 meters from the last houses in the northwestern outskirts of the village.

25X1

85. [redacted] officers of 3 Komandatura:

25X1

a. MIKHALKOV (fnu), Sr. Lt., Commanding Officer [redacted]

25X1

b. LAMBEV (fnu), Lt., officer on Komandatura staff, duties unknown [redacted]

25X1

Zastava, 3 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

6. 1 Zastava [redacted] code name Kokiche (snow-drop), Eleventh Line, was located next to the village of Kulata (N 4122/23 E 2321/22), Petrich Okoliya, near the railroad bridge and railroad line, about 50 meters from the border at the approximate location (N 4122 E 2321). There were tall poplar trees around the Zastava which was visible from a distance and consisted of only one building and it had electricity.

25X1

The western boundary (stik) of 1 Zastava was the Struma river and the eastern boundary was the western boundary of 2 Zastava, 3 Komandatura.

25X1

Zastava, 3 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

- 2 Zastava, [redacted] code name Elkha (alder tree), Twelfth Line, was located about one kilometer east of the village of Novo Khodzhovo (N 4124 E 2324), directly south of the road to the village of Piperitsa (N 4125 E 2326) and about 200 meters northwest of the elevation (kota) 223.7.

25X1

The area around the Zastava was bare without any outstanding characteristics. The Zastava occupied an old building, approximately 20 by 6 meters with a red tile roof. Only the front of the building was plastered or white-washed and contained some drawings. From only one side of the Zastava, toward the village of Novo Khodzhovo, the Zastava could not be seen from a distance, because the elevation 223.7 is situated between the village and the Zastava. On all sides the Zastava was surrounded with trenches, about 10-15 meters from the Zastava. There were two primitive bunkers, similar to those of Roza Zastava, one of which was about 500 meters east of the Zastava building and about 100 meters north of the road leading to the village of Piperitsa, and the other was about 200 meters west of the Zastava building and about 100 meters south of the road leading toward the village of Piperitsa. The second bunker was located on the ridge of elevation 223.7 in the direction of the village of Novo Khodzhovo. The area surrounding these bunkers was bare and the bunkers could be seen from the Zastava. There were no trenches connecting the bunkers with the Zastava. The Zastava had no electricity. A cart with two mules, a saddle-horse for the Zastava Commander and a service dog belonged to the Zastava.

25X1

The western boundary (stik) of Elkha Zastava began about 200 meters west of the place where the Khodzovska river empties into the Bistritsa river. This place is about 500 meters south of the village of Novo Khodzhovo. The western boundary begins at the termination point of a barbed wire fence which stretched

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25X1

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from here to a place near the village of Kulata. The eastern boundary was the line connecting elevation 372 (N 4124 E 2327) with the Greek border post, E.F. 85. Elevation 372 is located approximately 1,000-1,200 meters east of the village of Piperitsa.

0. Elkha Zastava had no radio nor automatic signals. Two telephone lines had been built in the Zastava area and Informant does not know when they were built.
- a. The first telephone line ran directly from the Zastava building to the western boundary of the Zastava. The wires were drawn on telephone posts and at certain places on the line there were outlets which were 50 centimeters from the ground and terminated in a contact point (kontakt). The Border Guard details carried receivers which could be connected to these contact points. Informant knows of three contact points on this first telephone line:
- (1) The first contact point was located about 150-200 meters from the Zastava building, in a straight line toward the western boundary of the Zastava, and at about 300 meters from the border. The surrounding area was bare. This contact point was used by the soldiers of the Dozor which the Zastava stationed in this area;
  - (2) The second contact point was located somewhere near the place where the Khodzhevskaya river empties into the Bistritsa river and serviced the soldiers of the Sekret which was stationed in this area. Informant has never seen this contact point; and
  - (3) The third contact point was located where the western boundary of the Zastava began, about 20 feet from the end of the barbed wire fence, terminating at this point. This contact point was mounted on a column in the middle of a field. It serviced the Dozor which was stationed here.
- b. The second telephone line ran directly from the Zastava building to the eastern boundary of the Zastava. There were two or more contact points on this line, of which Informant knows the location of the following:
- (1) One contact point was located on the eastern boundary of the Zastava, on elevation 372, about 10 meters from the place where the construction of an observation post was begun. The surrounding area was bare. On the northern side of this elevation there are a couple of ravines. Informant believes that this contact point serviced the observation post stationed on this elevation; and
  - (2) Informant knows that there was a contact point somewhere near the village of Piperitsa, in a ravine near the river passing through it.

About May 1952 the strength of Elkha Zastava was about 60-70 soldiers, of whom ten were junior sergeants and all were of the 1930 and 1931 recruit classes. On 1 May the Zastava personnel were reenforced with about 20 soldiers from the Otryad Maneuver Group. Informant knows the following officers of this Zastava:

- a. SIMEONOV (fnu), Jr. Lt., Commanding Officer; described in para 58 j (3) above; about 22 October 1953 he was on duty in the training battalion of 3 Otryad; and
- b. TYUTYUNDZHIEV (fnu), Jr. Lt., Deputy Commander

25X1

The weapons of this Zastava consisted of Vintovka rifles, Shpagin and Schmeisser sub-machine guns, two Degtyarov light machine guns and a Maxim Sokolov heavy machine gun.

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193. Until May 1952 there were no observation towers in the Zastava. However, the construction of such an observation tower was begun on elevation 372 at that time. Elkha Zastava operated the following Observation Posts:
- a. An Observation Post was located at the top of elevation 372 and consisted of two soldiers, one armed with a rifle and the other with an automatic pistol. This detail had only one shift (smyana), from 0600 to 1600 hours, including the time required for going to and from the Observation Post.
  - b. An Observation Post was located at the top of elevation 223.7, south of the Zastava building. This elevation was bare and without unusual features. The Observation Post was covered by two shifts, each consisting of two soldiers. The first shift set out from the Zastava at 0300 hours and began its duty as a Dozor. At dawn this patrol went to elevation 223.7 where it remained as an Observation Post until 1200 hours. The second shift went on duty at 1200 hours and served until nightfall. The shifts changed at the Observation Post.
194. Elkha Zastava operated the following Sekrets:
- a. A Sekret was situated at the point where the Khodzhevskaya river empties into the Bistritsa river. Informant did not serve on this Sekret. The area of this Sekret was bare, with a few poplar trees on the east side of the Khodzhevskaya river, and many bushes on the side of the Bistritsa river facing Greek territory. The Sekret was composed of three soldiers, one of whom carried a telephone receiver because there was a telephone contact point near this Sekret (see para 190 a (2) above). Informant knows that this Sekret operated all night, but he does not know of how many shifts it consisted, nor the times the shifts changed.
  - b. There was a Sekret located in the ravine and near the river which passes through it, between the old Bulgarian border post (number unknown) and the Greek border post E.F. 83. This Sekret was located near the Bistritsa river and the beginning of the barbed wire fence. This Sekret was maintained only during the night from 2400 to 0600 hours and consisted of two soldiers. This Sekret, together with the Dozor which passed through this area, covered and guarded this part of the border very thoroughly.
  - c. PRED PIPERITSA Sekret. This Sekret was located somewhere between the village of Piperitsa and the border. Informant can furnish no other information on this Sekret.
195. Elkha Zastava operated the following Dozors:
- a. The soldiers of one Dozor started from the Zastava building, usually at 0300 hours, toward the western boundary of the Zastava. They reached the place where the Sekret of para 194 a above was located and from there continued in an easterly direction on the road passing near the northern side of the Bistritsa river and reached the place where the Sekret of para 194 b above was located. At the same time the soldiers of the Sekret started back toward the Zastava the Dozor occupied the Sekret post on elevation 223.7 and remained as a stationary patrol at this Observation Post.
  - b. TOPOLITE (poplar trees) Dozor. This Dozor was located near the western boundary of the Zastava area and extended from the village of Novo Khodzhovo to the border where the barbed wire fence terminated. This patrol walked a prescribed path, passing near the western side of Khodzhevskaya river. Informant served several times in this Dozor which covered certain periods during the day and night with three shifts consisting of two soldiers on each. One shift was on duty from 1900 hours to 0200 hours. TOPOLITE Dozor got its name from the poplar trees situated between the path, on which the Dozor walked, and the river. This part of the border was very well guarded

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because it was covered by this Dozor as well as the Sekret of para 194 a above where the Khodzhovska and Bistritsa rivers join. One of the soldiers of this patrol had a telephone receiver which he could connect to the contact point located near the western boundary of the Zastava.

196. Every day this Zastava dispatched a detail known as a Granichna Poshta which consisted of two Border Guards who went to Katuntsi (N 4126 E 2326/27) and returned.

### 3, 4, and 5 Zastavas, 3 Komandatura, 3 Border Guard Otryad

197. 3 Zastava, [ ] code name Bor, Thirteenth Line, was located near the village of Lekhovo (N 4124 E 2330). Informant did not serve in this Zastava. 25X1
198. 4 Zastava, [ ] code name Buk, Fourteenth Line, was located near the village of Goleshovo (N 4126 E 2336). 25X1
199. 5 Zastava, [ ] code name Mur, Fifteenth Line, was located somewhere near the peak known as Ali Botush (N 4122 E 2336-38). About 22 October 1953, the Commander of this Zastava was Sr. Lt. TOMOV (fnu), described in para 68 h above. 25X1

### Mine-fields in 3 Border Guard Otryad

200. As of October 1953 there were no mine-fields between the old (pre-Communist) Bulgarian 5th border post (N 4119 E 2308/09) and the eastern boundary (stik) of Elkha Zastava near the village of Novo Khodzhovo. During the summer of 1952, sappers from the Sapper Platoon of the Otryad cleared the mine-fields from the Kongora area (N 4119 E 2310) and next the border in the area of Breza Zastava (N 4122 E 2313). The mines were collected and not exploded. During the clearing of the mines at this time, Ivan DIMCHEV, a 22 year old Border Guard soldier from the village of Vurshets, Berkovitsa Okoliya was killed by the accidental explosion of a mine.

### Choosing Locations for Border Guard Details or Naryads

201. The locations of Zastava details or naryads were chosen at monthly meetings held in the Zastava by the Commander of the Komandatura and the Zastava officers. Leaders or Starshi of Border Guard details, who did not participate in the details, also attended these meetings. After consideration of the opinions of all members of the meeting, the Commander of the Komandatura decided the area and name of each Zastava detail for the following month. In general, most of the Zastava details remained the same and only three or four were changed each month. The name assigned to each detail was usually the name of the location of the detail or the name of some outstanding landmark in the area of the detail. There was no established system for choosing the location of Zastava details. They generally were chosen with consideration for terrain features. Details were not established on parallel lines at regular distances and they were not concentrated along the boundaries between Zastavas. They were usually established in the interior of Zastava areas.
202. Only the Commander of the Komandatura could change the location of details or dissolve details. In cases of emergency, Zastava commanders could change details but they were restricted to changing not more than two details within a 24-hour period. When the route of a border violator was established, the Zastava commander would usually reduce the strength of the details adjacent to the route of the border violator and establish a new detail in the area of interest.

### Changes Occurring in a Zastava After the Escape of One of Its Members

203. After the escape of a Border Guard the following changes occurred in the Zastava 25X1
- [ ]
- a. All the close friends and associates of the escapee, including any relatives, were immediately released from the Zastava and transferred to the Komandatura Reserve Company, Otryad Maneuver Group or another Otryad. They were never transferred to another Zastava.

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25X1

b. All or most of the Zastava details were moved to adjacent locations and new details were assigned to the old locations.

c. A committee was organized to investigate the officers and some of the Zastava soldiers.

204. Sometimes, after the escape of a Border Guard, a full reorganization of the escapee's Zastava occurred, in which case all Zastava personnel, officers and soldiers, were replaced and re-assigned elsewhere. In the spring of 1953, an order was read to the soldiers of 3 Otryad which announced the full reorganization of an unidentified Zastava on the Yugoslav border.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MILITARY INFORMATION

##### Other Military Units in Petrich

205. There was no other regular military unit stationed in Petrich during the periods [redacted] April and May 1951, December 1951 to March 1952 and June 1952 to April 1953.

25X1

206. During the summer of 1953, a sapper company of Interior Troops (Vnutreshni Voyski) [redacted] was attached to 3 Border Guard Otryad in Petrich. See para 93 above for additional information on this unit.

25X1

##### Call-up of Reserves

207. [redacted] there were no reserves serving in the units of the Otryad.

25X1

208. [redacted] members of the 1926 and 1928 recruit classes from the village of Gubislav, Sofia Okoliya who were called for temporary military training;

25X1

a. Atanas Velez ANTONOV, 1926 class, [redacted] called-up in the summer of 1952 in Sofia for one to two months duty; and

25X1

b. Serafim Petrov VASILEV, 1928 class, [redacted] had completed his military service in an infantry unit in Pirin; [redacted]

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AREA OF 3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD

(Legend of Sketch on Pages 57, 58 and 59)

1. Headquarters
2. Barracks for soldiers from training and special battalions
3. Outdoor toilets
4. " "
5. Headquarters and sleeping quarters of 2 Komandatura
6. Headquarters and sleeping quarters of 1 Komandatura
7. Supply warehouse of 1 Komandatura
8. Warehouse
9. Shed for guns
10. Stable for horses
11. Ammunition depot for 2 Komandatura and carpenter's shop for 1 Komandatura
12. Hay barn
13. Otryad ammunition depot
14. Machine shop and gunsmith's shops (weapons repair shop)
15. Stables
16. " "
17. Warehouse of Supply Company
18. Barracks of Supply Company
19. Open shed for motor vehicles
20. Fuel depot
21. Barracks for guards and military guard-house
22. Building with unknown use (former bakery)
23. Barracks for couriers
24. Headquarters for officer-of-the-day for Headquarters Detachment
25. Firing range
26. Wall of firing range
27. Areas where kennels are located
28. Roads within Otryad area
29. Area of Petrich State Hospital
30. Quarters for officers of the Otryad
31. Petrich-Zlatarevo highway
32. "Kapitan Todorov" Street
33. Drill area
34. Area of tobacco warehouses

\*\*\* Barbed wire fence

Stone wall

X Stationary sentries

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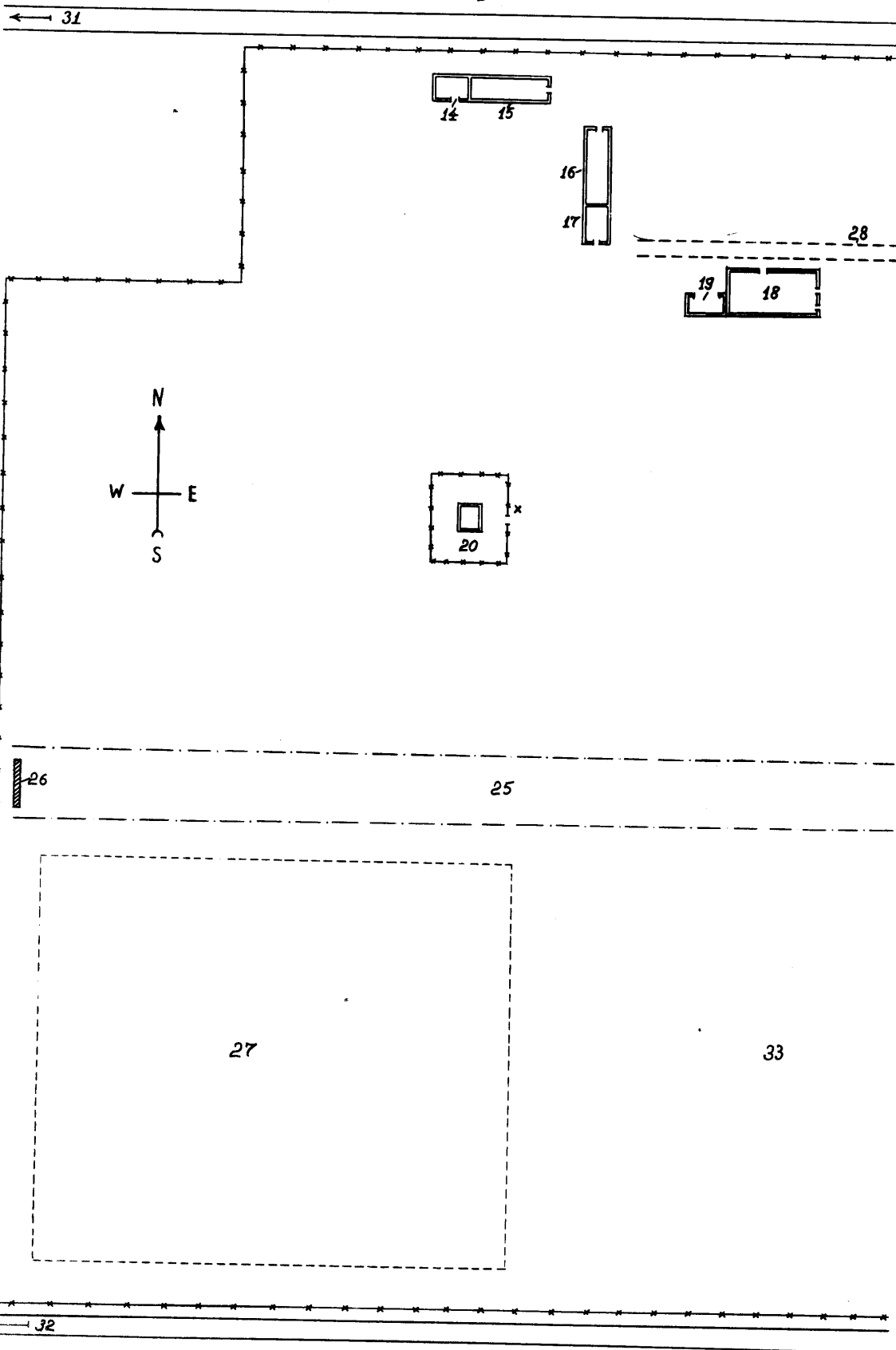
AREA OF 3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD

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25X1

I.



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SCALE 1 : 1,000

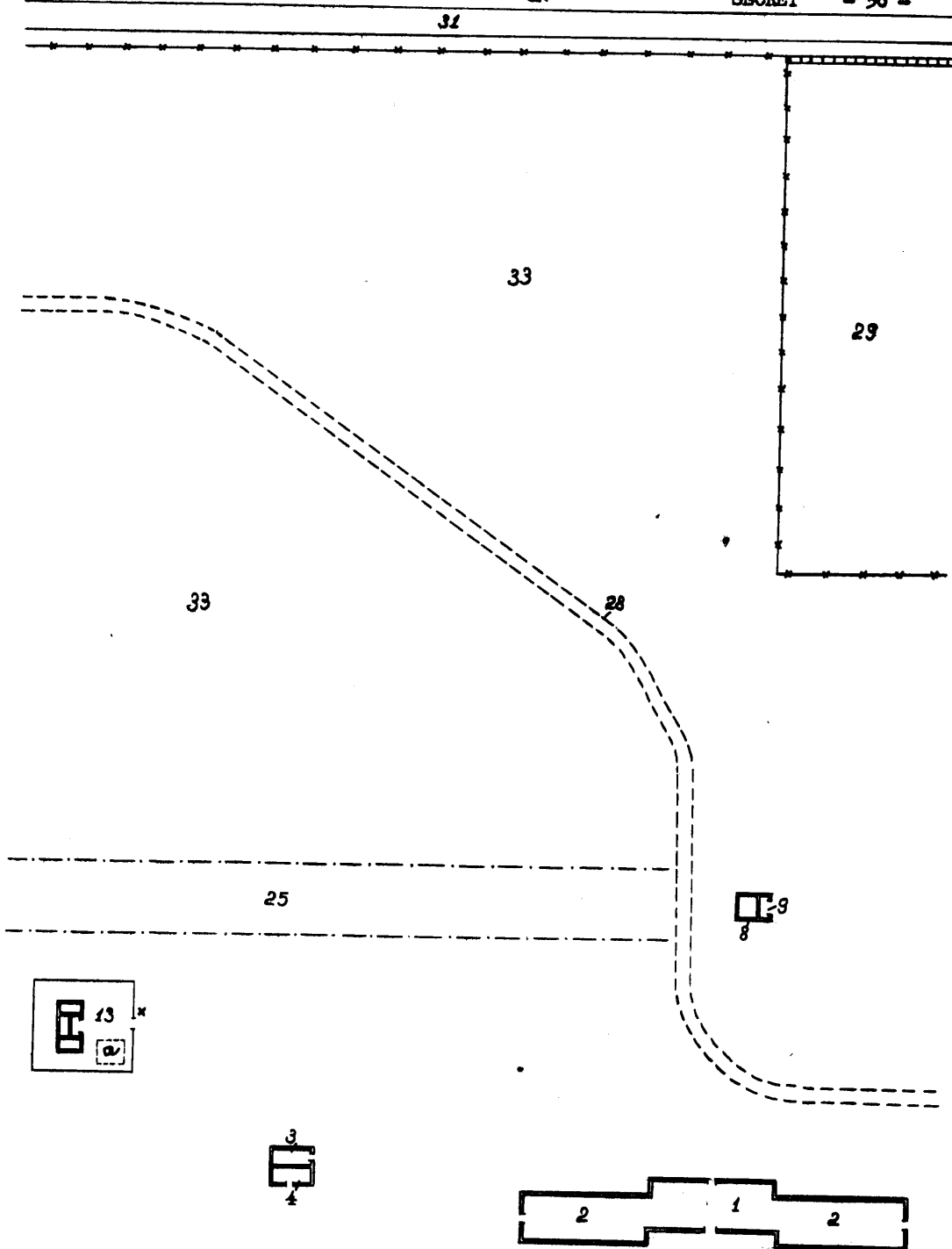
AREA OF 3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD

II.

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- 58 -

25X1



SECRET

SCALE 1 : 1,000



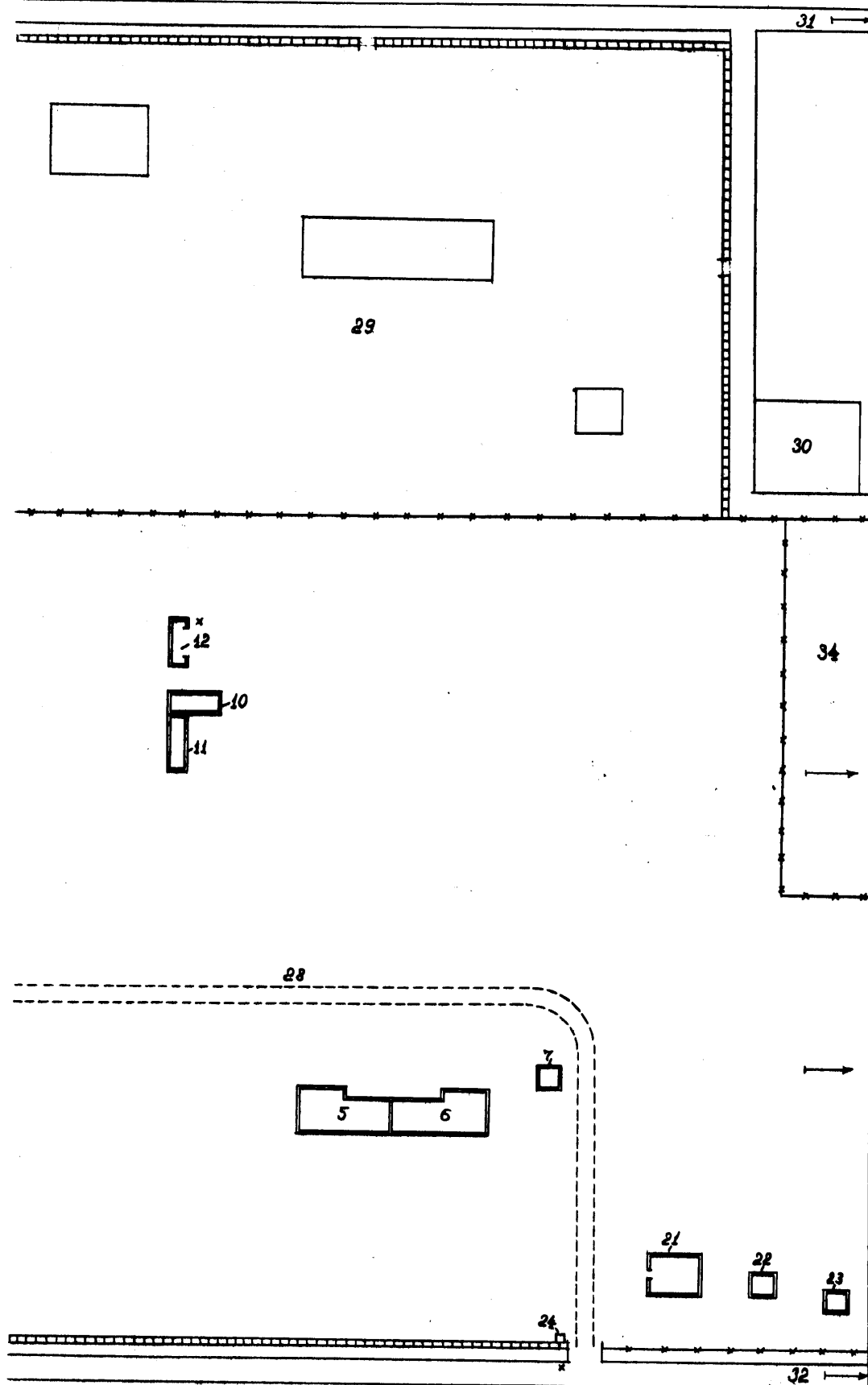
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AREA OF 3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD

III.

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SCALE = 1:1,000

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25X1

HEADQUARTERS BUILDING OF  
3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD IN PETRICH  
 (Legend of Sketch on Page 62)

I. Basement

1. Corridors
2. Storeroom for kitchen wood
3. Kitchen
4. Sleeping quarters for cooks
5. Refrigerator
6. Food distribution room
7. Warehouse for construction materials (nails, glass, metals, etc.)
8. Bakery (now not used)
9. Food storeroom
10. Former bath, now food storehouse
11. Supply room of Sapper Platoon
12. Bread storeroom containing daily food supplies
13. Otryad supply warehouse
14. Construction material storeroom (plywood, tin, etc.)
15. Otryad warehouse for footwear
16. Soldiers' mess hall
17. Supply room of the Communications Platoon
18. Ammunition and weapons depot of the Maneuver Group.

II. Ground Floor

1. Corridors
2. Headquarters of Otryad Military Police
3. Otryad radio room
4. Office of food supply officer
5. Office of chief of Otryad support unit (Chief of Rear)
6. Office of chief of K.E.CH. (see para 36 d above) and the gunsmith technician
7. Paymaster's office
8. Room with unknown purpose
9. Office of the Deputy Chief of the Otryad support unit (see 5 above)
10. Secret files and archives
11. Office of Chief of Military Police
12. Soldiers' quarters for training and special battalions when in existence; otherwise, occupied by the Maneuver Group
13. Offices of Company Commanders
14. Room with unknown purpose
15. Supply room of the Maneuver Group (now an office).

III. Second Floor

1. Corridors
2. Room No. 13 - office of the Chief of First Section
3. Room No. 14 - office of the Deputy Chief of First Section
4. Room No. 15 - office of Deputy Commander for Political Affairs
5. Room No. 16 - office of the Chief of Staff
6. Room No. 17 - office of Otryad Commanding Officer
7. Room No. 18 - office of Chief of Second Section
8. Room No. 19 - office of Deputies of Second Section
9. Supply room of Reconnaissance Section
10. Room No. 20 - office of Reconnaissance Section
11. Room No. 21 - CP and DSNM clubs
12. Soldiers' quarters for training and special battalions
13. Other officers' offices
14. Company Commander offices.

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IV. Third Floor

1. Corridors
2. Room No. 1 - office of the code clerk
3. Room No. 2 - office, Seventh Section
4. Room No. 3 - office of Chief of Reconnaissance Section
5. Room No. 4 - office of Instructor attached to Political Section
6. Room No. 5 - office, Operations Officer of the day
7. Room No. 6 - office of Otryad law consultant
8. Room No. 7 - telephone switchboard for Otryad
9. Room No. 8 - office of the Political Section
10. Room No. 9 - office of Ninth Section
11. Room No. 10 - Room with unknown purpose
12. Room No. 11 - office of chief of cadre and chief of telephone operators
13. Room No. 12 - small radio transmitter and receiver station.

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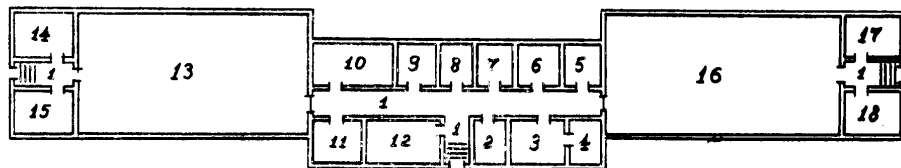
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- 62 -

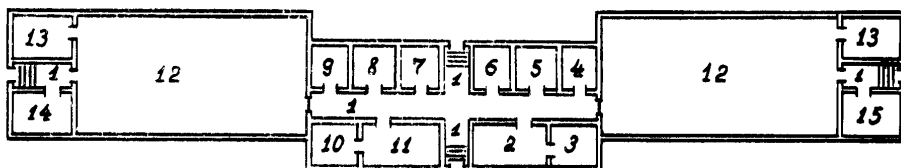
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HEADQUARTERS BUILDING OF  
3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD IN PETRICH

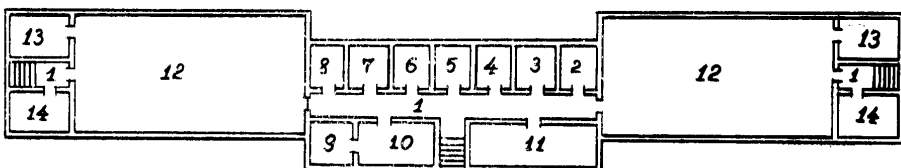
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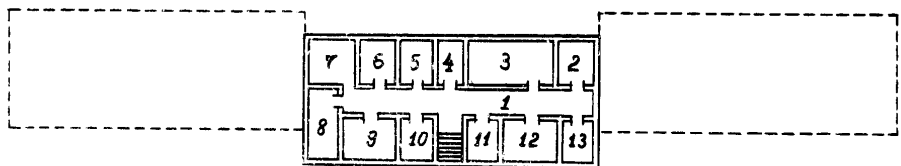
*II.*



*III.*



*IV.*



SECRET

SCALE = 1:500

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BUILDING OF 1 AND 2 KOMANDATURAS,  
3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD IN PETRICH  
(Legend of Sketch on Page 64)

## I. First Floor

A. 2 Komandatura, Podelenie 43-42

B. 1 Komandatura, Podelenie 43-41

1. Corridors
2. Soldiers' quarters
3. Office of the Company Commander
4. Soldiers' quarters
5. Office of the Company Commander
6. Office occupied by training officers
7. V. S. Section of 2 Komandatura
8. Chief of Staff, 2 Komandatura
9. Commanding officer of 2 Komandatura (office)
10. Commanding officer of 1 Komandatura (office)
11. Office of Chief of Staff of 1 Komandatura
12. Telephone switchboard for 1 and 2 Komandaturas
13. Room with unknown purpose.

## II. Second Floor

A. 2 Komandatura, Podelenie 43-42

B. 1 Komandatura, Podelenie 43-41

1. Corridors
2. Office of the Deputy and Political Officer of 2 Komandatura
3. Office of the Reconnaissance Section of 2 Komandatura
4. Room with unknown purpose
5. " " " "
6. " " " "
7. Wireless transmitter and receiver station for the Otryad
8. Office of the Reconnaissance Section of 1 Komandatura
9. Room with unknown purpose.

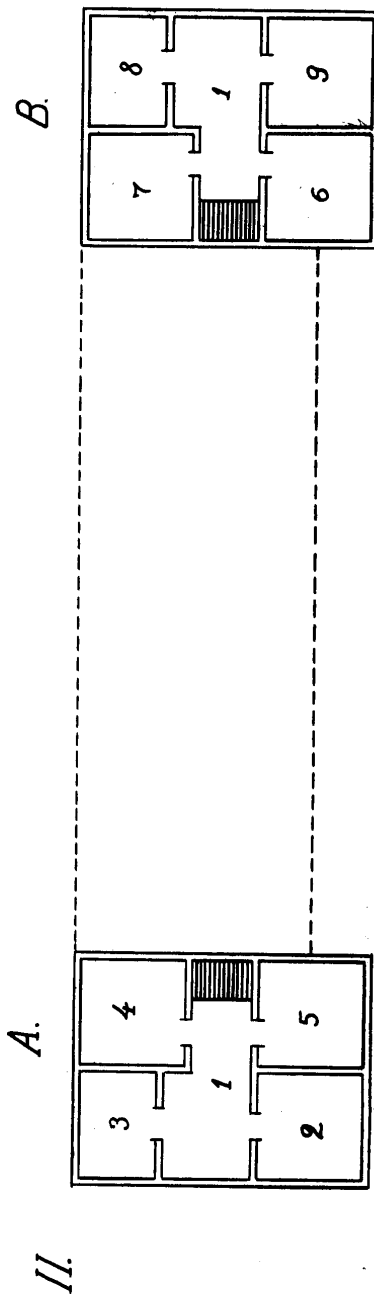
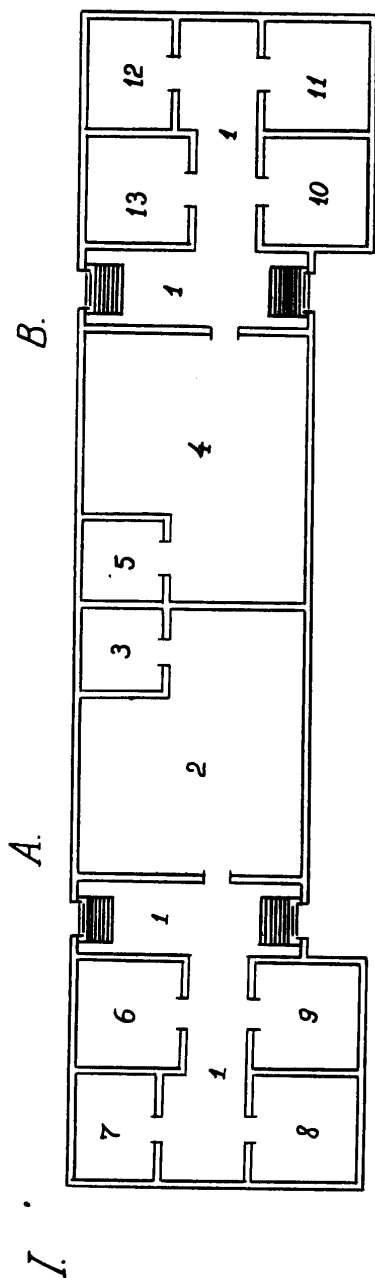
SECRET

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- 64 -

BUILDING OF 1 AND 2 KOMANDATURAS,  
3 BORDER GUARD OTRYAD IN PETRICH

25X1



SCALE = 1:200


SECRET


SECRET

- 65 -

AREAS OF ROZA AND BREZA ZASTAVAS, 2 KOMANDATURA  
(Legend of Sketch on page 66)

1. Town of Petrich
2. Village of Eleshnitsa
3. Monastery of Sveta Petka
4. Monastery of Sveti Iliya
5. Locality known as Dulgata Polyana (Long Meadow)
6. Roza Zastava
7. Breza Zastava
8. Petrich-Zlatarevo road
9. Petrich-Gega road
10. Petrich-Drangovo road
11. Petrich-Sveti Vrach narrow gauge railroad

 3 Border Guard Otryad

 1 Komandatura and 2 Komandatura

 Border Guard Zastavas

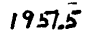
 State boundary


 Highway


 Roads


 Path

 River

1957.5  
 Kongora peak

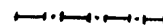
 Old (pre-Communist) border post

 Old Bulgarian 5th border post

 Barbed wire fence

 Stik lines (boundaries between Zastavas)

 Telephone line

 Line to be taken in case of expected infiltration

 Route covered by Informant

 Dozor

 Blockposts

x Sekrets

(x) Probable shift of Sekret

⊗ Places taken by Sekrets from Otryad Maneuver Group

o Observation posts

□ Canton

a Place known as 'Gyulova Polyana'

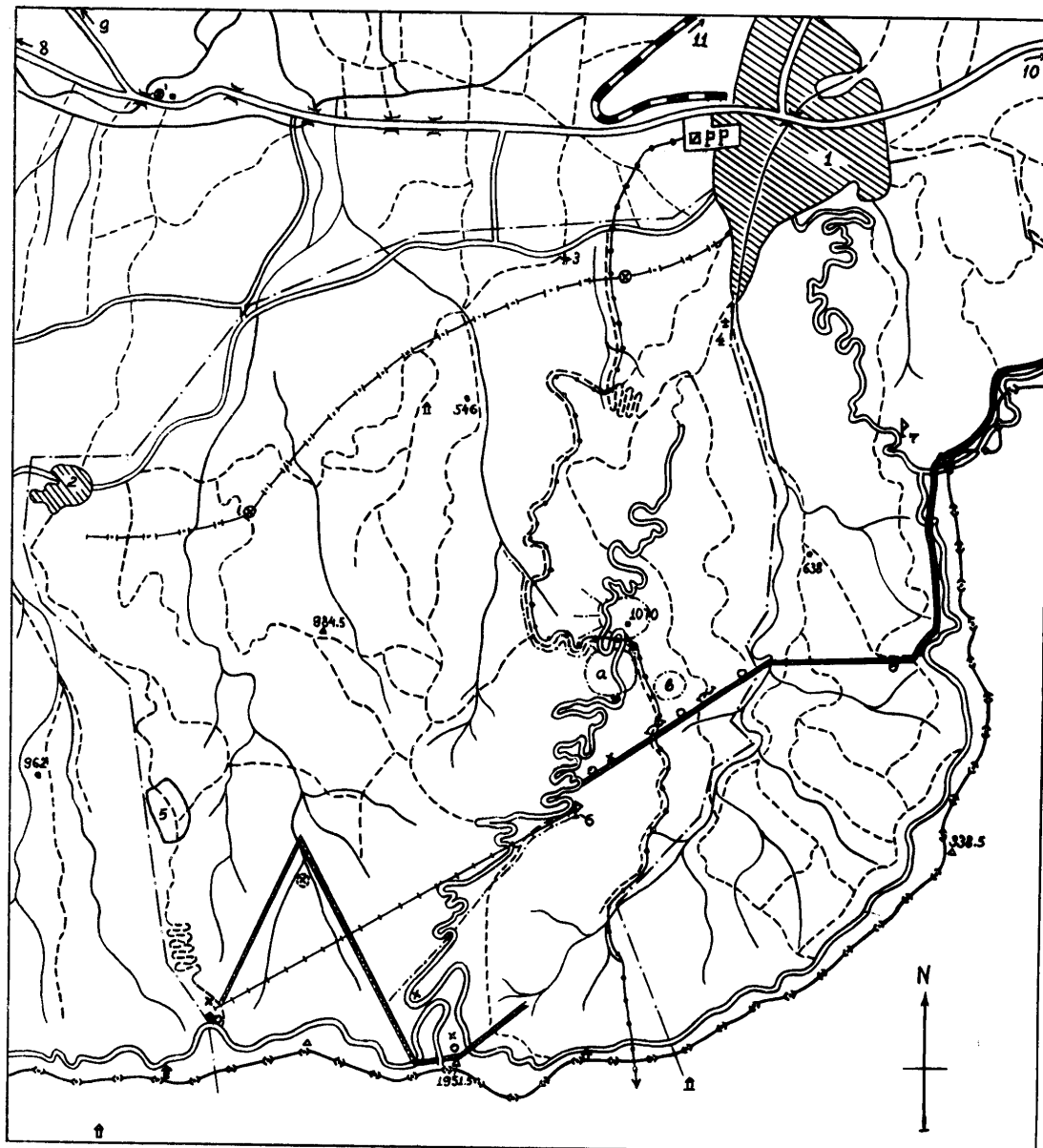
b Place known as 'Slamnik'

SECRET

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- 66 -

AREAS OF ROZA AND BREZA ZASTAVAS, 2 KOMANDATURA



SCALE = 1:50,000

SECRET



SECRET

25X1

- 67 -

AREAS OF MINZUKHAR AND MALINA ZASTAVAS, 2 KOMANDATURA  
(Legend of Sketch on page 68)

- |                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Village of Rŭzhdak                 | 9. Village of Shirbanovo              |
| 2. Village of Drangovo                | 10. Village of Mitino                 |
| 3. Village of Topolnitsa              | 11. Struma river                      |
| 4. Cemeteries of Topolnitsa           | 12. Highway to Petrich                |
| 5. Village of Mari-Kostenovo          | 13. Petrich-Sveti Vrach railroad line |
| 6. Railroad station of Mari-Kostenovo | 14. Minzukhar Zastava                 |
| 7. Village of Novo Konopladi          | 15. Malina Zastava                    |
| 8. Village of Pripechene              | 16. Rear Zastava                      |

—(•)—(•)— State boundary

——— Railroad track

===== Highway

— — — — Road

----- Path

~~~~~ River

— . . . — Stik lines (boundaries between Zastavas)

~~~~~~~~~ Barbed wire fence with ploughed area

— — — — Dozor

⌒ Zastavas

× Sekrets

○ Observation Posts

⌒ Old (pre-Communist) border post

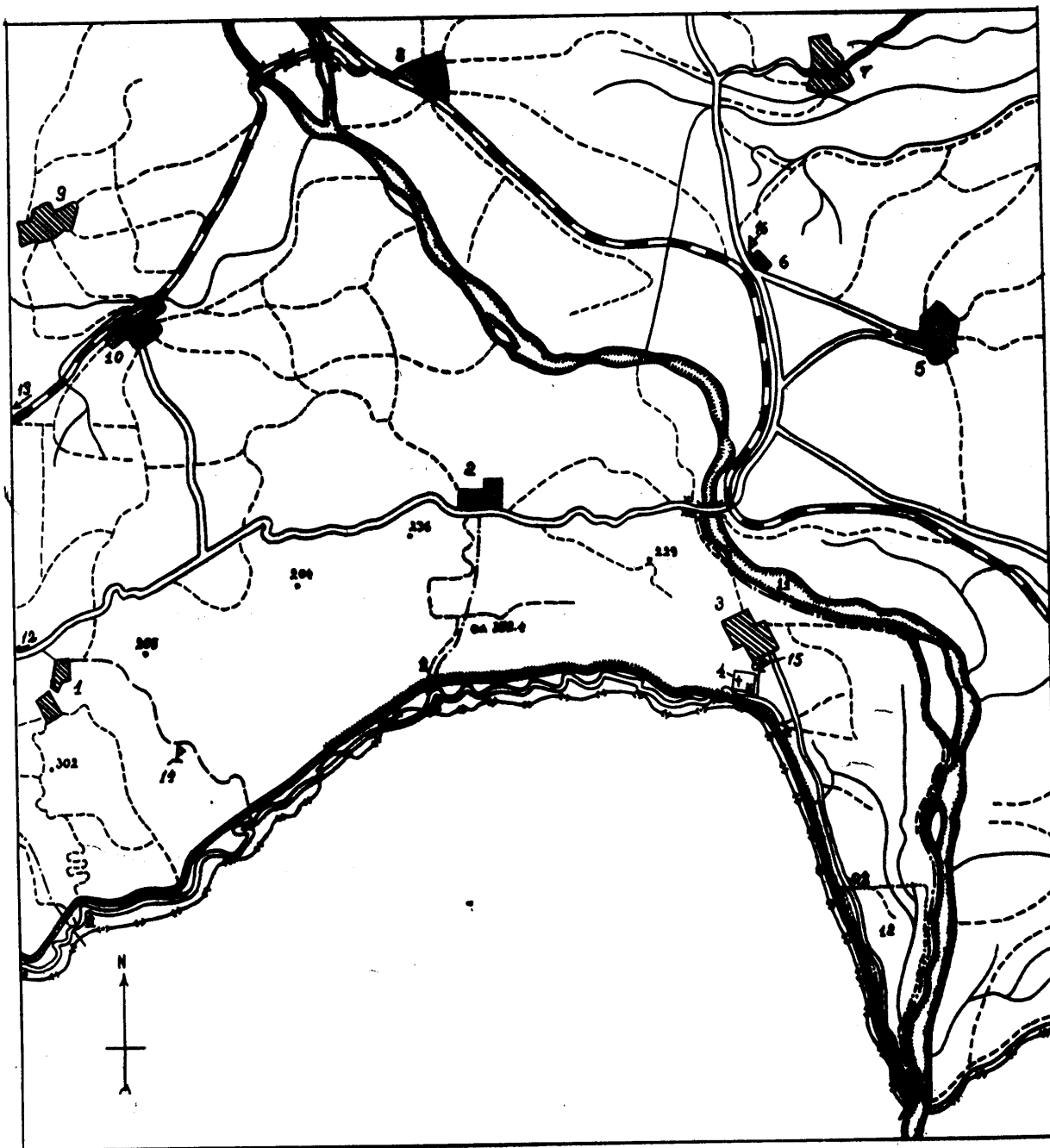
⌒ Old Bulgarian lith border post

= Canton (highway supervisor's hut)

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- 66 -

**AREAS OF MINUTEMAN AND MALINA ZASTAVAS, 2 KOMANDATURA**

SCALE = 1:50,000

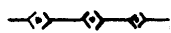
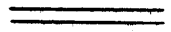
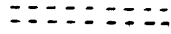
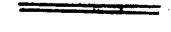


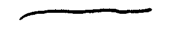


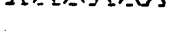








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- 69 -

AREAS OF KOKICHE AND ELKHA ZASTAVAS, 3 KOMANDATURA  
 (Legend of Sketch on page 70)

1. Village of Kulata
2. Village of Chuchuligovo
3. Village of Dolno Spanchevo
4. Village of Novo Khodzovo
5. Village of Piperitsa
6. Kokiche Zastava
7. Elkha Zastava
8. Bistritsa river
9. Khodzovo river
10. Petrovska river
11. Potoka river
12. Locality known as Dobrovo (see sketch)

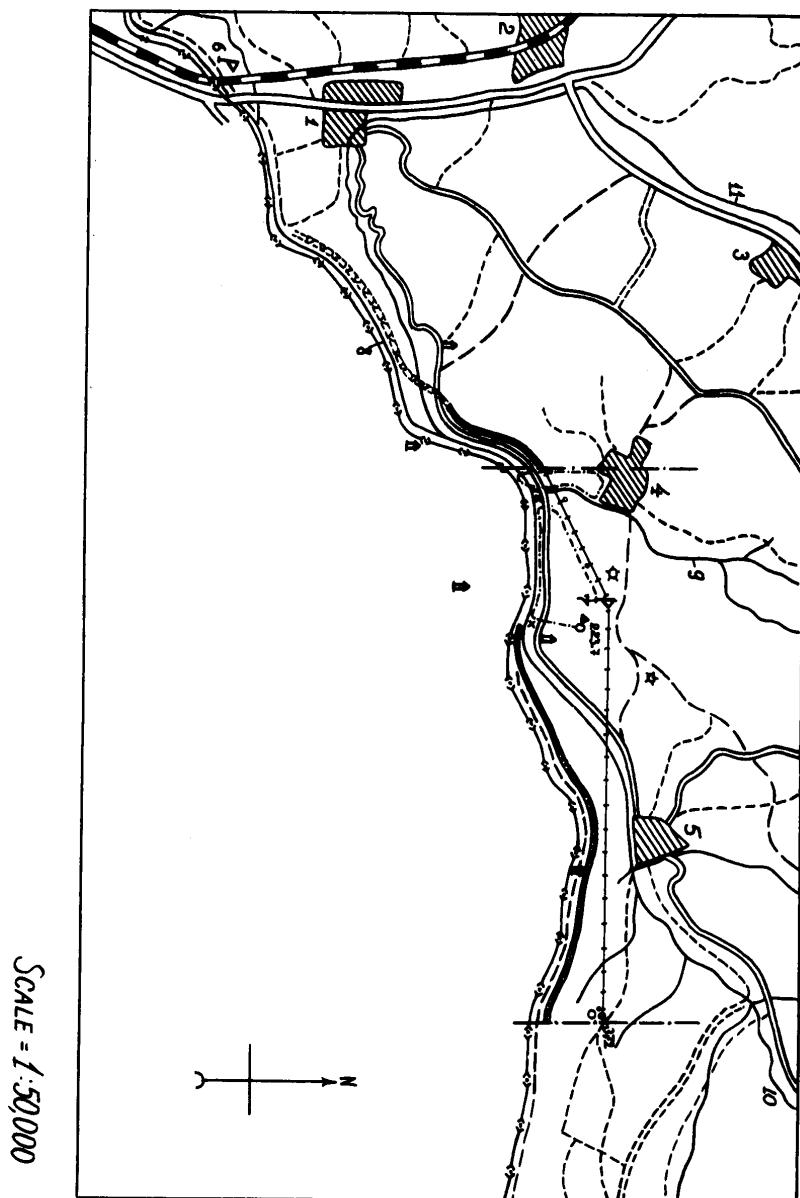
-  State boundary
-  Highway
-  Highway planned (not yet under construction)
-  Road
-  Paved roads (black road - low quality road between two villages)
-  Paths
-  River
-  Stik lines (boundaries between Zastavas)
-  Barbed wire fence
-  Unknown locality. Probable existence of barbed wire fence.
-  Probable existence of barbed wire fence
-  Telephone line with contact points
-  Dozers (Border Patrols) (see sketch)
-  Bunkers (earthen type)
-  Observation Posts
-  Sekrets
-  Zastavas
-  Old border post

SECRET

SECRET

- 70 -

AREAS OF KOKICHE AND ELKHA ZASTAVAS, 3 KOMANDATURA  
(Legend of sketch on page 69)



SECRET

SECRET

- 71 -

25X1

Comments:

25X1

1. [redacted] the UGV was transferred to Dürvenitsa, Sofia Okoliya in the beginning of 1955. 25X1
2. [redacted] the School for Border Guard Officers was located in the Dürvenitsa quarter of Sofia in 1952. 25X1
3. [redacted] this system has changed since the autumn of 1954 and the Border Guard soldiers now destined for the School for Junior Sergeants are sent there immediately after recruitment. 25X1
4. [redacted] this Ninth Section is the DS (Durzhavna Sigurnost; State Security) Section. 25X1
5. According to former Border Guard soldiers who escaped to Greece in the spring of 1955, this system has been completely changed since the autumn of 1954 and each Border Guard soldier was entitled to 17-20 days of home leave each year. This leave was authorized upon completion of each year and in addition each soldier received 2-4 or more days for travel.
6. [redacted], the organization of this training battalion was changed in the autumn of 1954. At that time the training battalion was re-named Training Komandatura (Uchebna Komandatura) and was composed of Training Zastavas (Uchebni Zastavi) which were similar in organization and strength to the regular zastavas. The training period was also reduced to two and one-half months. 25X1
7. [redacted]
8. [redacted] 25X1
9. [redacted] the Sapper Platoon was re-named Sapper Zastava (Sapyorna Zastava) and it had the same organization and strength of a regular zastava in autumn, 1954. Those attached to it received special training in the Sapper Zastava instead of in the special battalion in Dürvenitsa which was de-activated in the autumn of 1954. 25X1
10. This V.V. company is probably part of the V.V. troops whose barracks were located in the Dürvenitsa quarter of Sofia.
11. Subsequent information [redacted] from this area have shown that these rumors were accurate. 25X1

25X1

SECRET

SECRET

72



25X1

the area.



13.

Reserve Companies of Komandaturas were re-named Reserve Zastavas (Rezervni Zastavi) in the autumn of 1954. The organization and strength of the Reserve Zastava was similar to that of a regular zastava.

25X1

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